

ILLUMINARE

Volume 30, Number 3

January 31, 2012



Hands That Touch Hearts

Commissioned for Compassion, Committed to Justice

In recent years we have heard a great deal about what is called “the great commission” from Matthew’s gospel, chapter 28, verses 10 and 19: “Jesus said, do not be afraid. Go therefore to all nations ... take my good news and make disciples.” We are all called as Christians both to share the grace we have received through Christ and to grow God’s Church — something we Episcopalians have never been especially good at doing. There is, however, a second “great commission” in Matthew that Anglicans and Episcopalians have historically embraced in a more powerful and consistent way. It comes in Matthew 25 and is Jesus’ final parable. We usually call it “the parable of the sheep and the goats,” though some scholars—more menacingly—call it “the parable of the Last Judgment.” Jesus is talking about a king dividing his kingdom who says to his subjects,

For when I was hungry, you gave me food;when I was a stranger, you took me into your home.....Then the subjects will reply, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and fed you a stranger and took you home’.....And the king will answer, ‘Truly I tell you: anything you did for the least of these my friends, you did for meyou have my Father’s blessing.’

You might say that this is the prior commission, the one where we are called to build God’s earth into the kind of place where baptizing new disciples will really signify a new birth of love and joy! And this commission is why we are having a party this Saturday evening at Christ School.

Historically, Christ Church has been committed to ministries of compassion and reconciliation among people in need throughout our community and beyond. We do them well and faithfully and others depend on us to continue them. Many of us would like to do more and we should. In fact, we will do more.

I’m not sure what or when or how exactly, but I trust the Holy Spirit to work in and through us to discern these ministries. For now, join us this Saturday night — in body, in spirit, or both — and help this parish raise the funds we need to continue our service to the Caritas families, the CEEP summer learning and enrichment camp, and the Mission Beyond outreach of our youth. Bring your friends. Enjoy each other’s company — festivity is not un-Christian! Send some money in Jesus’ name to find Jesus in the eyes of the least, the lost, and the little ones.

Fr. Tom

Hands that touch hearts—a party with a purpose

It’s not too late to get your tickets! Our parish party is on Saturday, February 4, 2012 at Christ School, Christwood Blvd. campus. Music by the Bayou Liberty Jazz Band, food by La Provence, silent auction, and fun for all. You can purchase your tickets (\$40 each or \$75 per couple) in the church office during business hours — Monday—Friday, 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m., at Christ School in the Middle School office, or at Hebert’s Cleaners. **All proceeds** will support our major community ministries: CEEP, Caritas Early Learning Classes, the Caritas Summer Experience for Girls, and the Youth Mission Beyond trips.

Happening

An Encounter to Last a Lifetime

"More than just a retreat, Happening is a powerful encounter in which young people minister to young people, bringing Jesus joyfully alive in an enthusiastic community of disciples."



Happening is a renewal weekend sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana, using the gifts of young people and adults from many parishes and missions. Supported by adults, the weekend is led by a team of teenagers who spend months preparing. This team is led by a young adult called the Rector. For Happening #68 the rector is Natalie Csintyan from Christ Church.

The Happening weekend takes place at Solomon Conference Center. High school staffers give talks and participants are placed in family groups for the weekend which gives them a safe place in which to respond to the talks. Talks deal with a variety of subjects relevant to students and how they live as the body of Christ in this world. The weekend is full of singing, surprises, fun and friendship and is designed so that individuals are given opportunities to discover more about themselves, their Lord, their families and their world. The Happening weekend finishes late on Sunday afternoon with the celebration of Eucharist.

The purpose of the Happening movement is to enhance the ministry of the local congregation/mission by presenting the Gospel of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior to youth in an environment expressed in the traditions of the Episcopal Church which fosters and nourishes growth in Jesus Christ.

Happening is not for everyone but is an amazing opportunity to deepen a relationship with Christ in a safe space. Youth supporting youth. It is one weekend that has the power to affect the rest of your life.

Applications available on the Solomon website at solomoncenter.org



JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH RALLY

March 16-18, 2012

Solomon Episcopal Conference Center

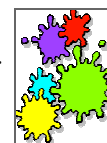


Come to an amazing weekend at the Solomon Center and get to know other junior high youth from all over the diocese. Join us for music from guest musician Mike Peterson from Marietta, GA, as well as great talks focused on our theme; "I Am the Vine, You are the Branches" John 15:5 Jesus tells us that he is the vine and we are the branches. He says "Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." Join us for this amazing, God-filled, youth-led weekend. The weekend is open to all youth in grades 6-8. Registration is online at www.solomoncenter.org. The cost of the weekend is \$100. Contact Amelia Arthur, aarthur@edola.org, with questions or to request financial assistance.

CCY Calendar

Wed., February 1

4:30 p.m. CCY Live! Jr.
5:30 p.m.-Dinner
6:15 p.m.-Sr. CCY Live! Sr.



Thurs., February 2

4:00-5:00 p. m. Blast Off!

Friday, February 3

Happening starts!

Sunday, February 5

10:15 a.m. Fundraiser clean-up at the Christwood Blvd. campus
2:00-3:00 p.m. Fundraiser clean-up at the Christwood Blvd. campus
Happening ends

Wednesday, February 8

4:30 p.m. CCY Live! Jr.
5:30 p.m.-Dinner
6:15 p.m.-Sr. CCY Live! Sr.

Thurs., February 9

4:00-5:00 p. m. Blast Off!

Sunday, February 12

10:15 a.m. CCY Fellowship & Formation
2:00-3:00 p.m. CCY Experience

CCY News: *Jr. High Lock-in*

This year's Jr. High Lock-In was a great success. We had 31 students come from schools all around this community. Most were familiar faces but some newer faces as well. Thank you to all who brought snacks to share with everyone. This helped keep the cost down and enabled this lock-in to happen without any charge to participants.

Here are some things we learned or re-learned during this lock-in

1. Just because the schedule says "Lights Out" at a certain time, the lights will most certainly NOT be out by that time. Maybe next year we won't put it on the schedule! That way they don't have that magic time in mind where they become completely outrageous and say they ARE NOT TIRED!
2. Next year, there will be a ban on ALL energy drinks, MONSTERS INCLUDED!
3. Being the clever youth leaders we are, and thanks to a generous donation, we installed a Wii Console in the youth center. Wii's can be very helpful in matters of entertainment and "keeping occupied."
4. Just because a video game is called "Just Dance," and even though most of the night was spent "Just Dancing," does NOT mean that a Jr. High student will get tuckered out and want to go to bed. In fact, it had the opposite effect.
5. The preschool and kindergarten playground will always be the most fun, ALWAYS.
6. Thank GOD for the senior high students who came to lead small groups and help throughout the night: McKenzie Elliot, Satchie Snellings, and William Willis, also a special thanks to Bubba LeBlanc and Bryant Badeaux for staying up ALL NIGHT and helping us monitor the kids.
7. Your kids, like all of us, have important prayer requests. And when you ask them if they need prayer, most are NOT HESITANT to share their need. We have such a large group on Wednesdays and we do not have the staff to split into small groups like we did at this lock-in. The smaller number encouraged the kids to share more about what's going on with them, and articulate their need for a strong and powerful God of grace and mercy.
8. We will likely always NOT feel like "Ever doing this again" for two days following the event, but it always pays off when the next Wednesday's attendance doubles and kids who weren't connected before are now connected in a whole new group!
9. Next year, bring toasters for frozen waffles instead of making fresh with the waffle maker. While homemade IS better, after being up ALL night, most kids were sleeping while eating and couldn't care less!
10. We are looking forward to next year already!

Thank you and God Bless!!

Daniel Ciufi and Sherri Nozik



KUDOS

* Thank you to **Brad Dunlavy** for the work he did on the movable buffet in the Commons.



PALM COLLECTION

Please bring your palms to church so that they may be made into ashes for the Ash Wednesday service on February 22. Place them in the designated basket in the narthex.

PRAYING IN COLOR

with Sybil MacBeth



Join us on Saturday, March 10 from 9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. at Christ Church for a morning of prayerful fun. Sybil MacBeth will lead us in a journey of learning this creative way to pray. Laugh, listen, draw, color, for the morning and stay for lunch.

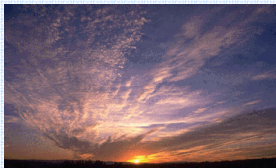
Sybil MacBeth is a dancer, a doodler, and a former community college mathematics professor. She combines her experience in the classroom with her lifelong love of prayer to offer workshops that engage differing learning styles. As the author of *Praying in Color: Drawing a New Path to God* (2007), she has lead over 100 workshops and retreats. She and her husband Andy just published *Praying in Black and White: A Hands-On Practice for Men* (2011). FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL ANNE MAXWELL 985-892-3177

ENERGETIC SENIORS



NEEDED

St Tammany Parish Hospital is in need of energetic seniors who can volunteer four hours once a week or four hours twice a month. Please call Shirley Primes, Guild Coordinator, at 898-4008 if you would like to volunteer. Ann Copeland, President, 892-3335



MEN'S RETREAT

April 20 - 22 at The Solomon Episcopal Conference Center

Retreat Spiritual Director/Speaker:

The Rt. Rev. Morris K. Thompson, Jr., Bishop,
Diocese of Louisiana

Retreat Facilitators: Men's Group of Christ Episcopal Church

Living the Promise of Abundant Life

Proverbs 11:14 "Where there is no guidance, the people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is victory."

Our goal is to include men from every Deanery in the Diocese, to reach over parish lines, strengthen relationships, make new friends in Christ, and broaden our common vision for advancing our mission.

The retreat is open to all adult men ages 18 and above. Early registration is encouraged. The retreat will start with dinner on Friday evening and conclude with a Eucharist service on Sunday morning. Saturday night will feature a Louisiana cook out sponsored by the Men of Christ Church Covington. Bishop Thompson will deliver a series of teachings and meditations and will provide significant free time to pray, study and enjoy the surroundings.

Cost is \$190 per person single occupancy and \$150 shared room. The cost covers 2 nights and 4 meals. Registration is on first come first served basis. There is a \$60.00 minimum deposit required with each registration.

For Registration and/or more information contact Bill Rhodes: billgreerrhodes@yahoo.com
or cell phone 985-630-8891,
Skip Scoggin: skip@mmsre.com, or Bill Batson: bill@thebatsons.com



KIDS ON A MISSION

On Sunday, January 22nd during the 11:15 service, we gathered for an amazing Kids-on-a-Mission program! After, we enjoyed a spaghetti lunch followed by cake and balloons. Thanks to Kelsey Mitchell and Amy Christopher for being instrumental in helping me to redevelop our direction!

KOM's Alainah Grace Reidy and Emma Mitchell did an awesome job in decorating the hall! They were ready to help and full of loving excitement at 7:30am in the morning! Thanks to all those who participated in the clean-up after, including several children participating in the program. Thanks to Kelsey Mitchell, Amy Christopher, Judith Reedy, and Laurie Thompson for leading the kitchen detail! We would not be able to be a success without all the parent participation, so many thanks to all of you!

We had approximately 40 children ranging from ages 4 to 12. This Family Ministry has tripled in size. We divided into three groups. The youngest group called Sharing Gifts, ages 4 to 6 were busy making hats and creating a masterpiece for the upcoming fundraiser under the watchful eyes of Kristen Strickland, Laura Ahrons, Gena Shell, and Amanda Weir. They learned how they can share their talents. The next group, ages 6 to 8 spent their time learning about "needs and wants" by creating decorated boxes for the upcoming fundraiser.

The goal was to discern between a "need" and a "want". They did this by discovering pictures in family magazines and using them to adorn their gift boxes. This was done through the guidance of Melanie Todd, Amanda Rushing, Bonnie Barry Pullen, and Liz Michel. As we know, this is a challenge for many of us as adults! The third group, ages 9 to 12 were busy learning about homelessness and sewing techniques under the guidance of Kelsey Mitchell and Amy Christopher. They sorted and folded uniforms for homeless children and learned about some of the challenges faced by children in need. We have been very blessed to have Ms. Annie and Ms. Cathy join us from Annie's Sewing to teach us how to sew.

The KOM children will begin their new journey helping children in need by learning how to sew drawstring bags, rag quilts, and T-Shirt pillows at Ms. Annie's shop. We will gather in groups of six every two weeks or so for specific projects throughout the year. We will go to various sites in our area for specific missions. I will be listing special missions on the web-site under the Kids on a Mission link so stay tuned for further details on upcoming missions. We invite full parent participation. If your child is in the third through fifth grade and has a passion to be God's hands and feet and learn how they can make a difference in their community, please contact Mary Anne Reidy at 985-789-6315 or at reidyma@netscape.com.



Join us for the SSA Alumnae Association

Mardi Gras Mambo for the Krewe of Olympia Parade

Saturday, February 11, 2012, SSA Campus – 4-9 p.m.

- ◆ The Krewe of Olympia's Reviewing Stand will be set up at the SSA Main Entrance
- ◆ Fenced viewing area on Boston Street site
- ◆ Family atmosphere
- ◆ Festive music
- ◆ Hamburgers, hot-dogs, jambalaya, and beverages available for purchase
- ◆ Bathroom accessibility
- ◆ Security on duty

Bathroom wristbands available for purchase at check-in

Questions may be directed to 985-892-2540, ext. 140 or

mpiazza@ssacad.com

Christ Church, Covington

*An Episcopal Church and School
in the Diocese of Louisiana*
120 S. New Hampshire St.
Covington, Louisiana 70433
(985) 892-3177
fax - (985) 892-3187

Early Childhood Center - (985) 892-9156
Christwood Blvd. Campus - (985) 871-9902
www.christchurchcovington.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID Covington, LA 70433 Permit No. 46

The Rev'd A. Thomas Blackmon, Rector

tblackmon@christchurchcovington.com

The Rev'd Anne M. Maxwell, Associate Rector

amaxwell@christchurchcovington.com

The Rev'd Winston E. Rice, Assisting

wrice@christchurchcovington.com

Mr. John Morvant - Head of School

PARISH STAFF

Susan Griffis *Parish Administrator*

sgriffis@christchurchcovington.com

Laura Robert *Publications Coordinator*

publications@christchurchcovington.com

Eunice Hutchison *Receptionist*

receptionist@christchurchcovington.com

Daniel Ciufi *Youth Minister*

dciufi@christchurchcovington.com

Sherri Nozik *Asst. Youth Minister*

youth@christchurchcovington.com

Mary Anne Reidy *Parish Life Coordinator*

mareidy@christchurchcovington.com

Martha Smart *Godly Play Coordinator*

godlyplay@christepiscopalchurch.com

Kathleen Turner *Newcomer Ministries*

kturner@christchurchcovington.com

Carolyn Parmenter *Director of Music*

Jessica Sermons *Organist*

Max Welch *Assistant Organist*

Benjie Branson *Assisting Organist*

Buddy Anderson *Nursery Coordinator*

Chuck Aversa *Facilities Coordinator*

VESTRY

2009-2012—Jeff Bell, Mark Berry,

Michelle Gallagher, Lucie Thornton

2010-2013—Bill Batson, Mel Elliott,

Jim Valliant, Paul Vining

2011-2014 — Mary Thomas Coady, Patterson Conner,

Michelle Prather, Judy Shopf

Scheduled to Serve Sunday, February 5, 2012

	7:30	9:00	11:15
MC		Barbara Magee	Richard Cryar
EMs	Anne Butts	Ann Geiger Nicole St. Paul	Fran Phares Judy Shopf
Acolytes		Alexis St. Paul Jamie Geiger Jack Nunez	Ashley Rushing Jon Rushing Ben Davidson
Lectors		Nancy Sandidge John Dubreuil	Alison Pelegrin Katharine Parrish
Ushers	Don Kieffer Charlie Stahr	Ray Kelley Skip Scoggin John Dubreuil Burns Crotty Rick Poirier	Steve Savage David Lynd Bobby Cox Cindy Schmidt
Greeters		Melissa Elliott Michael Willis	Tom Jacks Adrienne Landry
Altar Guild Team II			
Caring Ministry Leader Kim Scoggin 670-1000			
LESSONS FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2012 2 KINGS 5:1-14, PSALM 30, 1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-27, MARK 1:40-45			