

ILLUMINARE

Volume 29, Number 123

July 19, 2011

RENEWING YOUR SENSE OF WONDER

from the Rector

Writing in *The New Yorker* magazine, the humorist Robert Benchley once declared that there are only two ways to travel: first class or with children. Last month Molly and I had our first opportunity in many years to take a “first class” holiday. We did *not* fly first class, but our time away and the experiences we chose were, otherwise, first class all the way. I probably spent more time looking in churches than Molly. She probably spent more time exploring and shopping than I did, but the flexibility and emotional freedom we had was a great blessing. During my first few days back home, lots of folks asked me if I had gotten rested. “Well, not exactly,” I answered, “because we were 17 days of intense travel and sightseeing. But I *have* returned with a rich and renewed sense of wonder at the beauty of God’s creation and the inventive genius of God’s human creatures.” And for clergy – for most of you also, I suspect – a renewed sense of wonder is like a large deposit in the soul’s bank. Wonder-full experiences transform holidays into holy days and help us to draw closer to one another and to God.

A renewed sense of wonder can even happen *with* children on a holiday, though it is certainly different: watching the joy in your son’s face as he masters skating that boogie board through the tidal shallows. Or seeing your daughter rappel up a 70 foot granite rock face with confidence and precision, even as your heart fills your throat all the way up! Or just watching your kids sleep, exhausted and at peace, when you aren’t so exhausted yourself you can appreciate how beautiful and precious they really are.

Times and places for renewing your sense of wonder are critical in your spiritual life and mine. If we get away from our daily routines for awhile and re-discover some wonder-full-ness, then we can return appreciating those routines for the orderly, stabilizing faces they are. Our homes – weeds, bills, laundry and all – never look so good as after long trips, whether it is a trans-Atlantic flight in coach or a minivan with tired, cranky children.

Even more important spiritually is the truth that, in their distinctive way, holidays also teach us patience. Patience is the capacity to care slowly. If, within the confines of tight spaces and under the pressure of high prices, we can both enjoy and forgive one another, holidays will always be worth taking as well as coming home from. Families all need a break from routines but never from patience with one another, that patience which enables both adults and children to cope with good times and hard with equanimity and perhaps even joy.

IS YOUR INFORMATION CURRENT?

Have you checked your contact information in one of the directories located in the narthex of the church and the chapel? If not, please do so. Every year we try to correct the membership data and your help is imperative. We pay up to 50¢ for each *Illuminare* which is returned as undeliverable by the post office.

For your convenience, a few directories have been placed in a green basket in the church narthex and in the chapel. Check your information and make corrections directly onto one of those copies. If you are not in the directory, we don’t have complete information. In that case, complete one of the data forms next to the basket as well. It is our hope to have the data current by the time we begin work on a new Pictorial Directory in the fall.

Your email address and geographic location (name of neighborhood) are also important. Because many of you have requested electronic newsletters, and to help us reduce the costs of postage, paper, toner, and labor, we have worked diligently to configure the database to email as many *Illuminaries* as possible. If your email is in our database, you were sent the recent *Illuminare* by email. If your email address is not current, you may have missed the last issue which
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THE ROSE WINDOW - THE REST OF THE STORY



In response to my July 6 Illuminare article, Kenn Nolan pointed out that a history was done regarding all the windows in the church including the Rose Window. Thanks to Kenn, we now have the rest of the story. According to George Davis who carefully recorded the information in 1980, each color of the rose window has a significance. All of the natural colors of the world are represented: blue water, brown earth, red fire, blue sky, and green which signifies new life. Following that revelation, I couldn't resist a bit more research.

Rose windows have their origin from the early Roman round windows. The rose window became part of the Gothic style architecture and prolific in cathedrals in Northern France in 1200s and later in other parts of the world. Some have likened it to a mandala which is the symbol of humanity's desire for wholeness. Jung wrote; "the mandala serves a conservative purpose - namely, to restore a previously existing order. But it also serves the creative purpose of giving expression and form to something that does not yet exist, something new and unique. . . for in most cases, what restores the old order simultaneously involves some element of new creation."¹ That sounds Anglican and worth meditation as it relates to our history and our future.

I made reference to the Anglican Communion in my earlier article as a rose window puts me in mind of the Compass Rose which is a symbol of the world wide Anglican Communion. The center of the Compass Rose contains the cross of St. George and is surrounded by the inscription in Greek, "The truth shall set you free." The points of a compass reflect the spread of Anglican Christianity throughout the world. The mitre at the top indicates the role of Episcopacy and Anglican Order that is at the heart of the traditions of the Churches of the Communion. The Compass Rose is set in the nave of the Cathedral Church of Christ in Canterbury, England, and it was dedicated by Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie at the final Eucharist of the Lambeth Conference in 1988. He also dedicated a similar Compass Rose in the Cathedral Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul (National Cathedral) in Washington, D.C. in 1990.

And now you have the rest of the story.

¹ Carl Jung, *Man and His Symbols* (New York: The Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing Group, 1964) 247-248.

IS YOUR INFORMATION CURRENT?

Continued from page 1

went out on July 7 by email and on July 6 by regular mail. Receiving the newsletter printed on paper and mailed will continue to those who do not use email.

To help us find where our families live, please write in your neighborhood or development name in one of the directories. With so many new developments in the area, it has become more and more difficult to identify where people are located. This will also help us with another project which is more pastoral in nature: dividing the parish into geographic areas for the purpose of bringing folks more in touch with other Christ Church members in their neighborhood.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

All in the Family....

Meeting children from around the world

When: Mon., 8/1 –Thurs. 8/4
Time: 8:45-noon
Ages: 4-7
Cost: \$30 for 1 child, \$40 for 2,
\$50 for 3



Free child care for VBS week volunteers.

Led by E.C.C. faculty member Shannon Hessemer and volunteers. Closing cookout/pot luck dinner with moms, kids & dads on Thursday evening. Maximum of 40 children. Look for registration forms at church and on the web.

SUMMER THIRD SUNDAY CONCERTS AT CHRISTWOOD

Sunday, August 21 — Southern Tradition:
a New Orleans based barber
shop quartet



The concert will take place in the Garden Room at 5:00 p.m. and are free and open to the public.



Women's Creative Process Retreat "Slowing Down: Finding the Center in Our Busy Lives"

Offerings: Worship, art, prayer, individual spiritual direction, sacred dance, music, Taize, creative writing, dream work, gentle body-work (bring comfortable clothes), rest and renewal.

Dates: Thursday, October 13-Sunday, October 16, 2011

Place: Solomon Episcopal Conference Center

Presenter: ROBIN HEBERT is a native of Lafayette and co-author of *When Women Pray* and *When Wisdom Speaks*. She is a certified spiritual director and retreat leader, and serves as marriage ministry coordinator at Our Lady of Wisdom Catholic Church and Student Center on the University of Louisiana-Lafayette campus.

Cost: Triple Room: \$259 Double Room: \$279 Single Room \$ 348

Deposit: \$130--refundable only if we fill your space. Deposit required to register. Some scholarship money may be available.

Register: www.Solepisc.org (Adult Open Events)

More Info: Lisa Holden (504) 738-7234 or lholden7234@aol.com .
Only 7 spaces left!

WELCOMING WARNING!



Be aware that we are actively recruiting greeters. Therefore, we are encouraging new and long time greeters to

meet as many people as possible this summer. Just because we've seen you for years doesn't necessarily mean that we know your name. Please help us by being friendly and forthcoming if we approach you and by wearing a name tag even if you attend the 7:30 am or 6:00 pm service. It's okay to speak to someone even if he/she is not a newcomer - just say that you want to meet them and ask how long they've been coming to Christ Church. Most people will appreciate your interest.

BAPTISM



The next date for baptism at Christ Church is on August 7. Please contact The Reverend Anne M. Maxwell for more information. amaxwell@christchurchcovington.com or 892-3177.

SERVICE SCHEDULE CHANGE

On Saturday, August 6 there will be no 9:00 a.m. service. The clergy will be attending the ordination of Rev. Sharon Alexander at St. Michael's Church in Mandeville.

mindful mothering

This session we will gather to discuss the book *Real Kids Real Faith: Practices for Nurturing Children's Spiritual Lives* by Karen Marie Yust. From a theological and developmental perspective, Yust offers parents a variety of practical ways to help children grow in faith. Topics include Godly Play, prayer, yoga, art, as well as many other meaningful ways to create an everyday spiritual world in the home. Please join us for thoughtful discussion and reflection on the following Wednesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the parlor of the Commons. September 7, 14, 21, 28 and October 5. Please contact Carol Le Blanc for more information: (985) 807-7021 or cceleblanc1@bellsouth.net.



A Look Ahead:

In the spring, we will focus our sessions and practice around the book *Buddha Never Raised Kids and Jesus Didn't Drive Carpool: Seven Principles for Parenting With Soul* by Vickie Falcone.

MISSION BEYOND 2011 ON THE ROAD



Mission Beyond 2011 is on the road! Our high school

group will be in Rocky Mount, North Carolina July 23- 30. Please pray for our youth and their chaperones as they work to make a difference for those less fortunate.

Guest Preacher: Cynthia Russell Director of CEEP

On Sunday, July 31 we are honored to welcome Cynthia Russell, the Director of the CEEP program as our guest preacher at the 10:00 a.m. service. Ms. Russell will tell us about another successful year of CEEP! The children's work will also be on display.



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

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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 Ministries Coordinator*
dciufi@christchurchcovington.com
Sherri Nozik *Asst. Youth Ministries Coordinator*
....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 Ministries*
Jessica Gaboury *Organist*
Benjie Branson *Assisting Organist*
Max Welch *Pianist*
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, July 24, 2011		
	7:30	10:00
MC		Rhenné Cervantes
EM	Ralph Menetre	Ann Geiger Gray Mitchell
Acolytes		John Allen Hunley Jamie Geiger Emma Mitchell
Lectors		Liz Taurman Elizabeth Higgs
Ushers	Don Kieffer Charlie Stahr	Tim Wolfe, Jason Reina, Mark Mercante, Andrew Mercante, Mi- chael Willis, Bert Duvic, Dylan Langdon, James Richardson, Matt Holzhalb, Jim Conner, Patterson Conner, Clave Gill
Greeters		Lisa Geary, Judy Shopf Kerry Yeates
Altar Guild Team III		
Caring Ministry Leader Denise Baham 845-0798		
Lessons For Sunday, July 31, 2011 Genesis 29:15-28, Psalm 128, Romans 8:26-39, Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52		