

ILLUMINARE

Volume 29, Number 12

July 6, 2011

WHAT DO YOU SEE? WHAT DO YOU LEARN?



The Church is full of symbols that teach us about our tradition and about our expression of the tradition. The way the building is shaped, the placement of certain pieces of furniture, the size and relation of objects. For instance if you go into an Episcopal church built during mid to late 1700s, such as St. Michael's in Charleston, SC, you often find a very large pulpit to reflect the sermon as the central interest. Recent architecture often has one ambo (rather than a lectern and pulpit) which is of equal prominence with an altar to demonstrate that Word and Table or Word and Eucharist are of equal importance. Many churches have a baptismal font

filled with water somewhere in the back of the church so you must pass it when you walk into the Nave to remind you of your baptismal covenant.

I was in Houston recently at the Cathedral and they have a coloring book for children with many of the symbols found in the church. Sam spent much of the service scouring the Nave for the symbol that matched his colored picture - the lamb in the stain glass window, the cross over the altar, the triangular shape to depict the Trinity in the woodwork on the pulpit, the eagle on the lectern, the keys for St. Peter. I missed much of the sermon explaining why keys are a symbol for St. Peter. (Matt 16:18-19) He learned a lot that day by looking around him.

What do we learn by looking at our church? Walk into it with fresh eyes and look carefully at what it says about our practice. Notice the grounds, how well tended they are and how often the colors change. Honoring the glory of God's creation is important to us. Is someone there to greet you when you first arrive? We care about hospitality. We leave the outside doors open before a service, even when the air-conditioning must struggle, because we want to be an open place where people are welcome. We spend time and paper expense on bulletins that print much of the service to help those not familiar with all of our books. Please continue to notice if the newcomer around you needs help. Handing someone an open hymnal can make all the difference. Our choir chairs suggest a flexible, liturgical, space that can be changed for concerts. Piano and organ reflect a breath of musical style. The lack of a drum set suggests not too broad! We have a high altar which is not level with the pews, to set it apart, but one in which the celebrant can stand behind to face the people, recognizing our collective participation in the Eucharist.

Notice the details. The stain glass window over the altar is not a particular saint or bible story but a rose window. I haven't asked the reason but it suggests to me the importance of our connection with the Anglican communion. There is a book of remembrance in the Narthex. People's names are written in it for liturgical items they gave and in whose memory it was given. We care about tradition and remember those who were a part of our midst but are no longer. We have colorful bags for children to carry into the Nave. We do not have a space for them to play. We do not have a children's choir. We do invite children to sing in the 9:00 am service.

The flowers on the altar are not simple or inconsequential. We are blessed to have a flower guild (Anne Butts, Cindy Young, Sally Goodyear, Linda Wendle, Rosalind Rhodes, Margie Valliant, Claudia Cain, Nan Sanders, Jean Carter, Lucie Thornton, Ann Loomis, Beth Drown, Meagan Dubreuil, Donna Snellings, Karen Courtney, Lee Barrios, Tania Vining, Susan Seago and Katye Rubin) who do not simply put flowers on the altar but express liturgical significance with their presentations. Often using local items of greens, sticks,

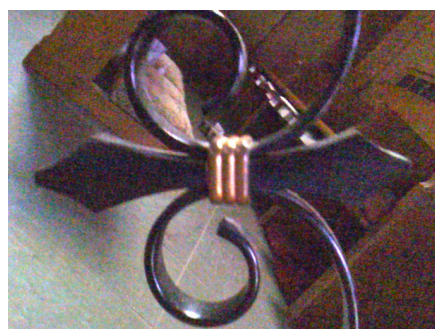
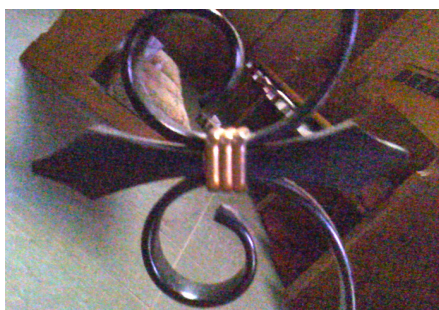
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flowers, the arrangements suggest a close connection with our particular context in the body of Christ. Feast days are elaborate reflections of the day. Pentecost was an amazing display of flowers which were red around the base, growing to orange in the middle and ending in yellow flames that rose to the height of the cross like the very fiery wings of the Holy Spirit on that first day! The next Sunday three very distinct, but intriguingly intertwined, arrangements covered the altar for Trinity Sunday. A sermon for the eyes no other explanation was necessary, except that I was scheduled to preach, so for the ears' sake, I did.

Notice the details of our space. Does it accurately reflect who we are and who we want to be? Does it suggest the glory of God? People learn an awful lot from just looking around. Come and see.

The Reverend Anne M. Maxwell



MISSION BEYOND 2011 ON THE ROAD



Mission Beyond 2011 is on the road! Our junior high group is traveling to Uppergrade, WV

July 2-9 and 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.

SUMMER THIRD SUNDAY CONCERTS AT CHRISTWOOD



Sunday, July 17 — The Irida Duo: Violinist Kate Withrow and pianist Eleni Dafeka will perform Schubert's *A Major Duo Sonata for Violin and Piano*, Constantines' *Dodecannese Suite* and Szymanowski's *Sonata for Violin and Piano*.

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

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

Altar Flower and Bread & Wine Donations



Dates are available for altar flower and bread and wine donations. This is a wonderful way to remember a loved one or commemorate a birthday

or anniversary. All donations are acknowledged in the service bulletin on Sunday. If you would like to donate, please call the church office at 892-3177.

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.

“Slowing Down: Finding the Center in Our Busy Lives”



One of the biggest obstacles we women face in tending our souls is the busy pace we keep. Remaining centered in the midst of our distractions has become a most important task we face each day. Essential questions emerge which deserve our attention:

How do we shape our lives in order to cultivate a soulful rhythm and harmonic balance?

How do we find our point of stillness, and live from our own center instead of our circumference?

How do we simplify our lives without relinquishing our passions?

During this retreat, we will enter Sabbath, a sacred time of holy restoration. Together we will explore centering prayer exercises, the four elements of balance, ways that we can reclaim the art of daily, monthly, and yearly Sabbath-keeping, as well as the age-old wisdom of some of our elders, including Anne Morrow Lindbergh and soul sisters, Mary and Martha.

“Woman today is still searching. We are aware of our hunger and needs, but still ignorant of what will satisfy them. With our garnered free time, we are more apt to drain our creative springs than to refill them. With our pitchers, we attempt sometimes to water a field, not a garden. We throw ourselves indiscriminately into committees and causes. Not knowing how to feed the spirit, we try to muffle its demands with distractions...”~Anne Morrow Lindbergh, *Gift from the Sea*

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

Dates: October 13-16, 2011-Thursday 6:30 PM-Sunday noon

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.

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.



UPDATE YOUR DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Look for the copy of the directory in the Narthex. Please check your address and phone number for accuracy. We need your email address too. In an effort to save on paper and postage we would like to contact you electronically. If you are not listed, complete a Christ Church Information Sheet and leave it or return it later to the office.

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.

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*
 Mary Anne Reidy, *Parish Life Coordinator*
mareidy@christchurchcovington.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, Pattercon Conner,
Michelle Prather, Judy Shopf

Scheduled to Serve Sunday, July 10, 2011		
	7:30	10:00
MC		Barbara Canter
EM	Ed Moore	John Linder Alison Pelegrin
Acolytes		Ava Hunley Emery Mitchel Alison Pelegrin
Lectors		Sean Gardner Ken Nolan
Ushers	Don Kieffer Charlie Stahr	Jon Henderson, Kirk Michel, Don Duggan, Jeff Bell, Steve Canter, Buddy Ander- son, Bailey Pullen
Greeters		Melissa Elliott, Georgie Myrtle
Altar Guild Team II		
Caring Ministry Leader Denise Baham 845-0798		
Lessons For Sunday, July 17, 2011 Genesis 28:10-19a, Psalm 139:1-11, 22-23, Romans 8:12-25, Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43		