

# ILLUMINARE

Volume 29, Number 11

June 21, 2011

## A LETTER FROM THE WARDENS

Gandhi is quoted as saying, "Be the change you wish to see in the world." Imagine what we could accomplish if only one member of each family at Christ Church volunteered to help with just one event this year! The Vestry recently held its annual retreat at the Solomon Center and established a goal to encourage active, robust committees to serve our parish and our community throughout the year. You don't have to commit to a year of committee work! Sharing your ideas or offering assistance with even one event will help tremendously! Please consider contacting at least one of the following individuals and offer to help in some way.

Parish Life -	Lucie Thornton ( <a href="mailto:lthornton@burglass.com">lthornton@burglass.com</a> ) or Mark Berry ( <a href="mailto:cmberryiii@aol.com">cmberryiii@aol.com</a> )
Newcomers -	Mary Thomas Coady ( <a href="mailto:mtjoseph@mindspring.com">mtjoseph@mindspring.com</a> ) or Judy Shopf ( <a href="mailto:judithshopf@bellsouth.net">judithshopf@bellsouth.net</a> )
Stewardship -	Fran Phares ( <a href="mailto:fmphares@hotmail.com">fmphares@hotmail.com</a> ) or Bill Batson ( <a href="mailto:bill@thebatsons.com">bill@thebatsons.com</a> )
Community Ministry -	Michelle Prather ( <a href="mailto:prather_m@bellsouth.net">prather_m@bellsouth.net</a> )
Youth -	Mel Elliott ( <a href="mailto:melissa.elliott@expresspros.com">melissa.elliott@expresspros.com</a> )
Family Ministries	Jeff Bell ( <a href="mailto:jbell@selu.edu">jbell@selu.edu</a> )
Buildings & -	Rhenne Cervantes ( <a href="mailto:rcerva@aol.com">rcerva@aol.com</a> ) or
Grounds	Paul Vining ( <a href="mailto:paul.vining@hudsonservicesinc.com">paul.vining@hudsonservicesinc.com</a> )

Our Christ Church community has been an active one. We have completed repairs and painting of Jahnce Hall, Holzhalb Hall, the Chapel and the Administration Building. Through the tireless work and talent of Margie Valliant, with the assistance of Catherine Lagarde, Gena Shell and Lisa McLaughlin, we are now blessed with a beautiful gathering place in the newly redecorated Commons. If you haven't seen it, please come by for breakfast before the 10 a.m. service. We will certainly enjoy their work for many years to come!

We have begun the process of developing a mid to long range plan for our congregation with the guidance of Bill Bancroft with Conbrio Consulting of Dallas. Some of Bill's past clients include Habitat for Humanity International, Shell Oil Company, and Duke University. As a favor to Fr. Tom, Bill has agreed to work for Christ Church for expenses only. What a gift! He has spent numerous hours asking questions in both group and individual settings. Recently, he attended our retreat at the Solomon Center. His guidance has been most helpful.

On the business front, the Facilities Planning Task Force Committee is working with Christ Episcopal School representatives to coordinate a maintenance program for the joint usage of the buildings on the New Hampshire Street campus. Also, in accordance with the Canons, the Vestry has commissioned an audit which is currently being performed. We are currently reviewing our disaster preparedness plan and insurance coverages. We are also in the process of updating the church directory. Over the next several weeks, please make an effort to complete the form provided to update your information.

Our youth minister, Daniel Ciufi, has been so successful in developing an active youth group, it became necessary to hire an assistant youth minister! Sherri Nozik will be working with Daniel to serve our youth. Sherri graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and brings several years of experience in working with students. She will be a great addition to the youth ministry team.

Our youth are participating in two mission trips this summer. The junior high group will travel to Uppergrade, WV on July 2nd, returning on July 9th. Our high school mission trip will be to Rocky Mount, NC from July 23rd to July 30th. A total of 40 youth group members will be participating. Please pray for them as they do their part to make a difference by helping those less fortunate.

*Continued on page 2*

*A Letter from the Wardens*  
*Continued from page 1*

Our children are also doing their part to change the world under the guidance of Mary Anne Reidy. Mary Anne has done an outstanding job this past year with Kids on a Mission. Children learn how to “be Christ’s hands and feet” through an introduction to the benefits of helping needy children here and around the world.

We are honored to serve as your wardens this year. We are all blessed with a vibrant, talented and caring congregation! We ask that you consider following the lead of our youth and children by “being the change you wish to see” in our parish and the larger community by contacting one of the committee leaders listed above.

*Respectfully,*  
*Michelle Gallagher*  
*Senior Warden*

*Jim Valliant*  
*Junior Warden*

## **MISSION BEYOND 2011 ON THE ROAD**



Mission Beyond 2011 is ready to hit the road! Our junior high group will be traveling to Upperglade, 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.

## **Staff Comings and Goings.....It's Summer**

*from the Rector*

We are pleased and excited that Sherri Nozik will join our Christ Church staff as Assistant Youth Minister beginning June 15. Sherri is a graduate of the University of Nebraska and has several years of youth ministry and church experience, as well as stints of mission work in the U.K. and in Ghana, West Africa. Sherri is passionate, friendly, high energy, and articulate in her faith. Married to Lance Nozik, Sherri more recently has served on the staff of the K-Bar Youth Home in Lacombe. Sherri is going to make a great team with Daniel, working half time and going to grad school. Please welcome her when you meet her. We are blessed to have her joining this community and serving our young people! Daniel will be taking some holiday time early in June and early in August (before and after mission trips!). Mary Anne Reidy will be traveling all of June and taking some family time in July...our musicians will be in and out, both for vacations and continuing education in July and August. The clergy are taking holidays as well. I will be away from June 17 through July 5, Winston, the first ten days of July and August, and Anne from July 18 through the 31<sup>st</sup>. Susan and the administrative staff will be away at various times for shorter periods. The parish office will be closed on Independence Day.



*Sherri Nozik, Christ Church, Assistant Youth Ministries Coordinator*



## **GREETERS NEEDED**

After a very successful push to recruit Acolytes and Eucharistic Ministers, we are now turning our sights on the welcoming ministry, especially greeters. One of the nice things about being a greeter is that it requires no commitment outside of Sunday mornings. (That doesn't mean that you can't attend newcomer events if you want to!) Greeters are asked to be at church a little early and to stay for a little bit after church so it is a perfect match for someone who has a family member with a Sunday morning ministry - acolyte, Eucharistic minister, usher, Christian formation leader, etc. It is also a great ministry for a couple or a family. Ideally, teams of 3 or 4 work well, our various strengths balance each other and a newcomer meets more than one person. We will spend the summer doing "on the job" training and then work out the teams for the 9 & 11 o'clock services in September. We would love to have greeters at 7:30am & 6:00pm also but have not had success recruiting anyone so far. If you are interested in greeting, contact Kathy Turner (kturner@christchurchcovington) to get more details or talk to her on Sunday mornings near the newcomers sign where she will be greeting most Sundays this summer. Just because this is a fairly simple ministry doesn't mean that it is not an important one - it is very important. Think back to the first time you attended the church, did anyone speak to you and make you feel welcome? If so, thank our current greeters who have been doing this for quite some time and could really use some help. If you were not welcomed, help us change that by becoming part of this vital ministry.



## Kids on a Mission Invites Missionaries

Please join us on Sunday, July 3 when Horace Tipton of Planting Faith will be our guest preacher at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.

In 2005 the Tipton family moved from Memphis, Tennessee to Kenya. Their mission and ministry was to share the abundance of Christ by teaching farmers how to make the most of their land and their skills. Having grown up in a farming family, Horace was able to address the issues that confront Kenyan farmers.

70% of Kenya's population is in the agriculture business, the majority of those individuals are small-scale farmers who are land rich (owning 1-5 acres), but are cash poor (average income: \$350 annually). After decades of over-use the land will support only 10 months of a family's food consumption. Additionally, farmers cannot supplement the loss of food during drought, political unrest, or plant diseases and pests. Planting Faith makes a difference. They provide a farming group framework which mitigate losses, increase buying power, and demonstrate inexpensive but efficacious farming techniques.

Planting Faith believes the Church's mission is to bring people into the Kingdom of God, not only by making them disciples by preaching salvation, but also by healing the brokenhearted, proclaiming liberty to the captives, recovering of sight to the blind, freeing those who are oppressed, and proclaiming the acceptable year of the Lord. (Luke 4, Jesus quoting Isaiah).

KOM has invited Planting Faith to encourage our youth to learn the value of relationship with people from all over the world - people who are engaged in the mission and ministry of bringing in the kingdom. Financial assistance for Planting Faith can be offered on Sunday, July 3 or through the website: [plantingfaith.org](http://plantingfaith.org)



### Diocesan Recovery Mixed Weekend ~ August 5-7, 2011

The Addictions Recovery Ministry (ARM) of the Episcopal Church is helping recovering Christians find a home within the Church with their 28th annual weekend for women and men. ARM seeks to provide education, guidance, and support for families struggling with, or wishing to learn more about addiction. Our desire is not to be dogmatic or exclude anyone in their spiritual search, but to live out the acceptance and love taught by Jesus. The weekend begins with supper at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, August 5 and ends after the Eucharist on Sunday, August 7 about mid morning. To register, go to [www.solomoncenter.org](http://www.solomoncenter.org)

### CARYL MENKHUS, GODLY PLAY DIRECTOR OF TRAINING, TO VISIT

On June 23-26 we are honored to welcome Caryl Menkhus, Director of Training for the Godly Play Foundation. Caryl will conduct a Godly Play teacher training June 23-25 and will be our guest preacher at the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, June 26.

### SUMMER BREAKFAST & FELLOWSHIP AT CHRIST CHURCH



Summer Sunday Breakfast has begun! We need volunteers to provide a simple breakfast and serve it in the Commons at 8:30 a.m. If you would like to volunteer for one or two Sunday mornings, please sign up on the poster in the back of the church or 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 one child  
\$40 for two  
\$50 for three



*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.

# 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](http://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 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, June 26, 2011		
	7:30	10:00
MC		Rhenné Cervantes
EM	Liz Taurman	Barbara Canter Richard Cryar
Acolytes		Cecilia Stewart Carlton Stewart McKenna Fussell
Lectors		Lucie Thornton Nikki Barranger
Ushers	Don Kieffer Charlie Stahr	Tim Wolfe, Jason Reina, Mark Mercante, Andrew Mercante, Michael Willis, Bert Duvic, Dy- lan Langdon, James Richardson, Matt Holzhalb, Jim Conner, Pat- terson Conner, Clave Gill
Greeters		Lisa Geary, Judy Shopf Kerry Yeates
Altar Guild Team I		
Caring Ministry Leader Judy Shopf 892-2527 & Valerie Lynd 875-3055		
Lessons For Sunday, July 3, 2011 Deuteronomy 10:17-21, Psalm 145:1-9, Hebrews 11:8-16, Matthew 5:43-48		