

# ILLUMINARE

Volume 29, Number 18

September 27, 2011

## NEVER UNDERESTIMATE YOUR AMEN

A friend said that he would love to do a study on people's daydreams and thoughts during the Eucharistic prayer. It's a long time to be silent. The Celebrant says the *Sursum Corda* (Latin for "Lift up your hearts") which is the opening sentences to the Eucharistic prayer. The last two lines of the *Sursum Corda* are "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God," to which the people respond, "It is right to give God thanks and praise," and then the people don't have anything else to say for some time. You get a quick memorial acclamation (Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will rise again) but that's it until the end.

All daydreaming jokes aside, my friend believes that where our thoughts carry us during that prayerful time do in fact reveal something about our spiritual discipline. What is our prayer life like? How long can we stay engaged? What have we been studying about liturgy or prayer or sacraments that aid us in our worship? Some days all that is revealed is that your children can't sit still at the moment. I know there are times I am glad to be the Celebrant or I might not be paying attention! Your only response comes at the end when you say, "Amen." One word meaning "So be it. I agree!"

One very powerful word so don't underestimate its value. Your *AMEN* is your way of fully participating in the power of the transformation, of not only the sacramental elements of bread and wine, but also the transformation of the Body of Christ, in and through, the Eucharistic communion. In our Book of Common Prayer, the AMEN is printed in all capital letters to underscore the importance. A quiet, soft, wavering, *amen* is not expected. A robust, claim-it-as-my-own, AMEN, because I have been paying attention, and contemplating the sacrifice made for me, that is continually offered on my behalf, and I am profoundly grateful, AMEN, is encouraged.

If none of this makes sense, or if you don't feel qualified to say AMEN in all caps, or if you just don't know that God cares whether your amen is included, more Christian Formation is for you. We learn about everything from our prayer life, our sacramental theology, to how to worship with a squirmer, in our Formation Classes. Book studies, creative prayer experiences, bible studies, godly play, it's all there. All of it will feel like an intellectual endeavor without community worship, and community worship becomes repetitious drama without the ever deepening understanding discovered through study and fellowship.

Sunday morning classes, Tuesday morning bible study, Wednesday Mindful Mothering and Mindful Parenting, Thursday evening Prayer Hut, and starting in October an ongoing discipleship class called Surely the Presence, are all examples of Adult Formation offered this fall. You are strongly encouraged to be a part of this excitement. AMEN!

*The Reverend Anne M. Maxwell*

### **Sunday at 10:15am**

Womenspeak, Empowered for Service,  
Genesis of Our Family Story

### **Tuesday at 10:00am**

Bible study at Christwood

### **Wednesday**

Mindful Mothering, 9:30am,  
Mindful Parenting, 6:30pm

### **Thursday**

Prayer Hut, 6:00pm followed by  
Surely the Presence, 7:00pm

## SPOTLIGHT ON STEWARDSHIP: Skip Scoggin

When some are asked to serve, they put in their time and then back away, sort of like a wave receding... and then there's Skip Scoggin, who is called "a man of deep faith, reliable, constant and positive- who doesn't back off, who is always there quietly working behind the scenes, leading even when he doesn't have to." Skip is a realtor, pilot and tennis player. He came to us from Oklahoma City and has been a member of Christ Church since 1988, serving on numerous committees from Finance and Property to Eucharistic Visitation. Skip served on our Vestry and as Sr. Warden and was instrumental in organizing CEEP. He has given of his time and himself for the last 23 years with the support of his loving wife, Kim and their two daughters. As to why he gives back, Skip says, "I believe. I believe in the word of God. As we give, we receive, but it must come from the heart-- God wants to bless us, but we have to pay attention... We have to be willing to give not only our money but also our time, our love, even our friendship to others as He asks us in our hearts. Then He will press it all down and give back even more to us in return." The blessing he has received this past year from Christ Church— The Men's Group on Sunday morning. "Men have a way of buttoning up their lives and dealing without support. It is exciting to see God at work among us, helping us in these turbulent times to operate with love and faith."



## CARITAS EARLY LEARNING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

For over 60 years, the Caritas missionaries have served the poor in Louisiana and around the globe. They support their work strictly on donations from the community. Caritas classes for economically disadvantaged children ages 2 – 4 are held at Christ Church from October – May on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. In a loving, Christian environment, the children participate in activities that help develop pre-academic and social skills. Members of Christ Church and others contribute by providing meals, working with the children, and financially supporting the program. You can volunteer one day, one week, or once a month. If you would like to work with the children contact Michelle Prather at [prather\\_m@bellsouth.net](mailto:prather_m@bellsouth.net). Sign up to bring meals at [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/caritas18](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/caritas18).

## NEWCOMERS BRUNCH



The next brunch is scheduled for October 16. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us if you have not attended one of these brunches. If you plan to attend, please contact Kathy Turner by October 12 and let her know how many to expect. You may also contact Kathy for more information about newcomers. [kturner@christchurchcovington.com](mailto:kturner@christchurchcovington.com)

## MAINTAINING THE CAMPUS:



**Grounds Team** Parishioners make themselves available for occasional gardening work days to

keep all of the grounds an area of pride for Christ Church. Contact Linda Wendle at 845-1479 or Beth Drown at 893-3566.

Our next Grounds Day will be on Saturday, October 15 at 8:00 a.m. Please join us!

## PRAYER HUT NEEDS MUSICIANS.



Do you play piano, guitar, flute, cello or another instrument that could assist with

Taize? Do you want to learn more about Taize? We would love to have you join us on Thursday evenings in the chapel. 6:00 - 6:30pm is for silent prayer and reflection but at 6:30, we explore other methods of prayer including music. We have the willingness; we could use some more talent. Please contact Anne Maxwell at [amaxwell@christchurchcovington.com](mailto:amaxwell@christchurchcovington.com) or 892-3177.

## NEW GROUP: GO ON LIVING

Go On Living is a gathering of individuals who have lost their spouse and enjoy the friendship and support of others learning to live in this new reality. Periodically we gather for lunch and conversation. Please contact Anne Maxwell at [amawell@christchurchcovington.com](mailto:amawell@christchurchcovington.com) or 892-3177.

## KOM Outreach Program! Being Christ's hands and Feet!

**Kids on a Mission, Grades First and Second!**

**Senior Kids on a Mission, Grades Third through Fifth!**

**Children in Pre-K and K are Welcome!**



*I cannot draw God because he cannot be seen. The best way to see God is to let the paper be clear, empty. Although we cannot see God, he is around us, in the earth and in heaven at the same time. Tomas, 10 years old*



Please join us on October 12<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday from 5:00 to 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. Children in Pre-K and K are welcome as long as a parent joins in the fun! We will begin with a fun game which will lead to further discussions and various art projects. We will work on a mission for The Christmas at Sea Project of The Seamen Church Institute, led by The Reverend Michael Nation. He will explain to the children the local needs of mariners who are miles away from their families during the Holidays. We will also continue our work with the Hands and Feet Project which is a project helping orphans in Haiti to be good Haitian citizens. We hope to give our children who missed the last program a chance to have direct connections with these Haitian orphans of the Hands and Feet Project through our pen pal program. Those that came to the last program will further their education! The church will handle all correspondence. We will gather together for dinner at 6:30pm. If your child goes to Christ Episcopal School and requires transportation from the CBC to the ECC, a shuttle will be available between 4:00 and 4:15pm. All children requiring the shuttle must submit a permission form to the CES lower school office by Oct 10<sup>th</sup>. The permission form can be found at [www.christchurchcovington.com](http://www.christchurchcovington.com). To save a spot please call Mary Anne Reidy at 985-789-6315 or email [reidyama@netscape.com](mailto:reidyama@netscape.com).

### PLAY AND PRAY



Play and Pray is a group for moms with children 3-6 years old. Join other like minded moms for a play date amongst friends. Our first activity of the season will be [Friday September 30](#). It's actually Fair Day so there is no school. Feel free to bring older siblings. We are going to take a trip to Ms. Heathers Pumpkin Patch in Hammond. <http://thfarms.com/pumpkins.htm> Meet us at the Patch at 10am or join the carpool/caravan in the Target parking lot at 9:30am. It's great fun for the kids and bring your camera! Kristen Strickland, 504-231-5341 [Kristenstrickland36@gmail.com](mailto:Kristenstrickland36@gmail.com)

### MINDFUL PARENTING,

*Wednesdays 6:30-7:30pm in the Parlor of Holzhalb Hall*

A discussion class for parents of infant to teenaged children.



This class requires a willingness to show up and share your experiences as a parent. Childcare with pizza available if you RSVP. Contact Anne

Maxwell or Erin Cain at 892-3177 or [amaxwell@christchurchcovington.com](mailto:amaxwell@christchurchcovington.com)

### THIRD SUNDAY CONCERT



The next concert in the Third Sunday Concert Series will be "Time Flies" featuring the NOVA Chorale performing music of Dvorak, William Byrd, Ligeti, Chilcott, and others on Sunday, October 16. The program begins at 5 p.m., is free and open to the public, and is followed by a reception where the audience can meet the performers. NOVA is directed by Dr. Meg Hulley Frazier.

**The Malcolm C. Webb**

**Symposium:**

### THE MAKING OF THE KING JAMES BIBLE

*at Chapel of the Holy Comforter*

2220 Lakeshore Dr.,  
New Orleans, La. 70122

*Saturday, October 8*

*9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.*



Program includes

"Before the King James Bible"

Speaker: Dr. Bill Warren, Landrum P. Lovell, II, Professor of New Testament and Greek, N. O. Baptist Theology Seminary and

"Making the King James Bible"  
Speaker: Dr. Warren M. Billings, Distinguished Professor of History, Emeritus, UNO and Visiting Professor of Law, College of William and Mary.

Complimentary lunch in the chapel's Bishop Girault M. Jones Student Center. For further information, see

[www.holycomforternola.org](http://www.holycomforternola.org) or email [carolbillings3@cox.net](mailto:carolbillings3@cox.net)



## CCY EXPERIENCE:

The CCY Experience is open to all youth grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> looking to build their faith by focusing on discipleship and growing the gifts that God has already given them. A major component of this gathering will be training our youth to be leaders in ministry, our church community, and in outreach. We meet on Sundays from 2:00—3:00 p.m. in the Youth Center

## BLASTOFF!

### Kicks off September 29

This fall, Christ Church will be kicking off a brand new weekly youth group open to all who are in grades 4 -6. The new group will meet on the Christ Episcopal School (*Christwood Blvd. Campus*). This fresh and exciting new ministry is called BlastOff! BlastOff! will be held every Thursday from 4:00 - 5:00p.m. There will also be an adult-supervised study hall available from 3:00- 4:00p.m. for students that do not have a sport or other activity directly after school and wish to remain on campus until Blast-Off! begins. We will be using a clearly marked classroom located in the high school building for the study hall and for our BlastOff! meeting space. Please call Daniel Ciufi at 985-892-3177 for more information.



## YOUTH RETREAT:



Saturday, October 8 -Sunday, October 9 our senior high school youth(9th-12th) will join together for a youth retreat at St. Michael's brand new building in Mandeville. Topics and activities to follow via email and the website. Please contact Daniel Ciufi at 892-3177 or via e-mail [dciufi@christchurchcovington.com](mailto:dciufi@christchurchcovington.com) for more information.

## OPEN HOUSE FOR PARENTS OF PROSPECTIVE PK/K STUDENTS



Christ School will have an Open House for Parents of Prospective PK/K students on Wednesday, October 5th at the ECC campus (120 S.

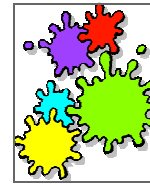
New Hampshire). The time is 9:30. If you have a friend or family member whom you would like to receive an invitation or if you need an application for your child, please email Pam Perry at [pam@christepiscopalschool.org](mailto:pam@christepiscopalschool.org) or call her at 871-9902

## 2011 NORTHSORE WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

CES and Christwood Retirement Community are hosting the 2011 Northshore Walk to End Alzheimer's at the CES Campus (Christwood Blvd.) on Saturday, October 15. This Alzheimer's Association event is the largest national event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer care, support and research. Visit the Walk website, [www.alz.org/louisiana](http://www.alz.org/louisiana), to learn more, and then let us know how you would like to be involved. Contact Walk Chair, Mary Maciasz, [marymaciasz@gmail.com](mailto:marymaciasz@gmail.com); 985.373.8623 or Logistics Chairs, Charlie and Pat Hemenway, [chasnpat@att.net](mailto:chasnpat@att.net); 985.796.1497. Start a team...fund-raise...volunteer...walk! The end of Alzheimer's starts here!



## CCY Calendar



**Thurs., Sept. 29**  
4:00-5:00 p. m.  
Blast Off! Begins

### Sunday, Oct. 2

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

### Wednesday, October . 5

4:30 p.m. CCY Live! Jr.  
5:30 p.m.-Dinner  
6:15 p.m.-Sr. CCY Live! Sr.  
*Topic: Jr. 2012 Missions*  
*Sr. Retreat logistics*

### Thurs., October 6

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

### Saturday, October 8-9

Sr. High Retreat at St. Michaels, Mandeville

### Sunday, Oct. 9

10:15 a.m. CCY Fellowship & Formation  
**NO CCY Experience**

### Wednesday, October . 12

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

### Thurs., October 13

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

## THE CHRIST CHURCH FALL PRAYER VIGIL



Prayer is about relationship, about being connected to God and one another. This year we are expanding the prayer vigil. We can pray anytime, anywhere. Please write your requests and thanksgivings and place them in the Prayer Basket in the narthex. You are encouraged also to sign up on the

Prayer Vigil calendar in the narthex to keep a personal prayer vigil either in the Chapel or at home, from 6:00 p.m. to midnight on October 7 and 7:00 a.m. to noon October 8, a concentrated time of collective prayer for Christ Church, its people and community. Give yourself permission—that week and every week—to disconnect from the circumstances and business around you to "be still and know that I am God." Want help with prayer resources? Check in the narthex or on the web site.

### The Autumn Prayer Vigil for Christ Church, Covington

6:00 p.m. –midnight Friday, October 7 - Saturday, October 8, 7:00 a.m.  
—Noon  
in the Chapel

As we set this time aside for focused prayer on behalf of our parish and its people, please let us know of your particular prayer concerns. Please share with us your petitions, your intercessions, and your thanksgivings so that our vigil prayer leaders can include them. Complete this and return it to the church office with your prayer requests:

Petitions

\_\_\_\_\_

Intercessions

\_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgivings

\_\_\_\_\_

Whether or not you are able to join us personally during the prayer vigil, we ask you to pray at home or wherever you find yourself.

*From your Wardens and Vestry....*

## THE TROUGH AND THE SUGAR BOWL



Late each summer, every church that operates by a budget based on gifts and pledges begins to fall into a cash trough. Our expenses are not reduced through the summer, but our giving and pledge payments do drop off just as our attendance does. The result of the "trough" is that the "sugar bowl" from which we pay the bills gets dangerously low in September. We almost always end up having to access our line of credit at the Whitney. We have no debt and we are glad we can do that. We always settle it by January, but we don't ever enjoy doing it. For this year-to-date, our expenses are 4% over budget, all of which is due to the \$35,000 we have spent on buildings and maintenance (we budgeted \$20,000) for our wooden structures and HVAC systems. On the income side, we are at 92%, but that 7% represents a pretty big number within the discretionary portion of our budget. We need your help in erasing this deficit, climbing out of the trough, filling the sugar bowl, and staying even and prudent through the remainder of 2011. If you believe you are lagging in your gifts or pledges, please make them current as quickly as you can. If you're not sure where you are, please ask one of our co-treasurers. And if you'd like to do something extra, please know how much it would be appreciated.

## SURELY THE LORD IS IN THIS PLACE

A journey into gospel, faith, prayer and discipleship for those seeking a deeper relationship with God and one another as a community. This class will be led primarily by the parish clergy, begins on October 13 and continues on succeeding Thursday evenings. Seekers, inquirers, life-long Episcopalians, and the just-plain-curious are invited and encouraged to join. You will need to bring your own Bible and Book of Common Prayer. Call (985-892-3177) or email the Rector at [tblackmon@christchurchcovington.com](mailto:tblackmon@christchurchcovington.com) if you have questions or wish to join.

## BEAUTIFYING OUR CHAPEL

Most of you have probably noticed, at some point, a rather be-draggled-looking lecturn in our Chapel. Through the years since Fr. Steve brought it here, life and daily use took its toll on the wood. Early last summer, Bill Batson, a parishioner and Vestry person here at Christ, asked if he could take it home to his workshop and rebuild it for us. I almost jumped with joy! And so he did, taking it all apart, and redesigning it along more classic lines. He salvaged some good wood, made a new base, reinforced the reading surface and added a beautiful piece of polished cherry for a new surface. Hours and hours of sweat equity later, we have a lovely new lecturn which is worthy of our beautiful chapel. God makes some of us to be apostles, some to be teachers, and some to be artists in wood! Thank you, Bill!



# 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

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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 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 October 2, 2011

	7:30	9:00	11:15
MC		Rhenné Cervantes	Richard Cryar
EMs	Ed Moore	Ann Geiger Nicole St. Paul	John Linder Judy Shopf
Acolytes		Alexis St. Paul Jamie Geiger Evan Baham	Ashley Rushing Jon Rushing Ben Davidson
Lectors		Nancy Sandidge John Dubreuil	Katharine Parrish Alison Pelegrin
Ushers	Don Kieffer Charlie Stahr	Ray Kelley Skip Scoggin John Dubreuil Burns Crotty Rick Poirier	Steve Savage David Lynd Bobby Coxe Cindy Schmidt
Greeters		Melissa Elliott Michael Willis	Tom Jacks Adrienne Landry
Altar Guild Team II			
Caring Ministry Leader Linda Wendle 845-1479 & Barbie Lasater 892-2378			
LESSONS FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2011 Isaiah 25:1-9, Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23, Philippians 4:1-9, Matthew 22:1-14			