



**June 2009
GoodNewsLetter**

Youth

St. Crispin's Summer Camp Registration

Information and forms are available online at: www.episcopaloklahoma.org.

- Who: those who have finished third grade through senior high school.
- What: theme of "One Body-One Spirit, Unity in Diversity"
- When: age-specific sessions that begin Sunday afternoon and run through Saturday morning
- Where: St. Crispin's, operated by the Diocese of OK, 7.6 miles east of Seminole on HWY 9
- Why: described as "an important part of my Church youth group's formation"
- How: check out web-site, or bulletin board next to St. Paul's nursery

Scholarships Available

Email kjarvis@stpaulsokc.org

Camp Cathedral 2009

The Earth Is The Lord's

July 27-31

Campers & Help Wanted!

Mark your calendars for the mornings of the last week of July, and please send an e-mail to kjarvis@stpaulsokc.org to volunteer your time and talent for one or more mornings.

Camp Cathedral Planning Meeting

10:10, Sunday, June 7, Undercroft

Senior High Youth

+++ Happening +++

June 28-30 at St. Crispin's:

Check-out the Diocesan Web-sites:
www.episcopaloklahoma.org or
www.okepiscopaloyouth.org

Family Camp at St. Crispin's

Sponsored by the Diocese of Oklahoma

Sun, June 28 at 4:00 PM – Wed, July 1 at Noon

According to the Diocesan web-site, (Events),

"Dean Aimee Watson Hannerman is planning a morning program for both adults and children. Afternoon recreational activities will be provided for all.

Multi-generational activities will take place each evening.

The Rev. Luke Back will serve as Chaplain.

Please contact Carey Emig at carey_emig@yahoo.com to register."

Important Info

Don't let your pledge go on vacation.

Please help us from falling behind in pledges this summer. June is here and we begin the summer which is historically a low revenue time for St. Paul's.

You can help by staying current with your pledges. Even though summer is a time for vacation, please continue your contribution during these months. If you didn't pledge, please consider pledging and contributing to the operation and service of your church community.

New Banners & Streamers Group

St. Paul's is recruiting individuals for a new ministry group responsible for Banners every Sunday at 9 & 11 services and Jubilation Streamers on high festival days. We are looking primarily for adults or high school/college students. There will be a training at 10:00 AM Sat, June 13 in the Cathedral.

For more information contact Vickie Norick at 848-1338 or slickbmr@att.net or Marshall Binns at 749-9298 or beattydw@earthlink.net

Bookstore Summer Hours

On June 1 the Cathedral Book and Gifts store starts summer hours, and will be open Monday through Friday, 10 AM – 2 PM, and on Sundays after morning services.

Cathedral Books & Gifts will also be closed from July 1–15.

Fellowship

ECW Board Meeting

June 7 at 10:10 AM in the Undercroft

The Episcopal Church Women Board meets in the Undercroft this month.

Blessed Days

- June 1 Given by Ann & Gary Baer In Celebration of their Wedding Anniversary
- June 9 Given by Jim & Karen Jarvis in Celebration of their 30th Wedding Anniversary
- June 15 Given by Marilyn Hale In Thankgiving for the Life of the Reverend Allan R. Davidson
- June 18 Given by Terry & Dorothy Gilliland In Celebration of their Wedding Anniversary
- June 22 Given by Todis & Buzz McDonald In Thankgiving for the Ministry of David Pendleton Oakerhater and the 41st Wedding Anniversary of Todis & Buzz McDonald
- June 26 Given by Ronald E. & Helen G. Stakem in Celebration of their 38th Wedding Anniversary

Memorials & Contributions

Memorial Fund

- In memory: **Ray Hudak**
- Donor: Ms. Nira Smith
- In memory: **Ford Cowan Price**
- Donor: Mrs. John M. Rowntree

Endowment Fund

- In memory: **Sandra Cerney**
- Donor: Mr. & Mrs. Michael Mahaffey
- In memory: **Ann Hoover**
- Donor: Mr. & Mrs. Michael Mahaffey
- In memory: **Ford C. Price**
- Donor: Mr. & Mrs. Michael Mahaffey
- In memory: **Deak Price**
- Donor: Mr. & Mrs. Michael Mahaffey

St. George's Guild

- In memory: **John Handy Edwards**
- Donor: Mrs. Joe R. Grubb
- In memory: **Jason Grubb**
- Donor: Mrs. Joe R. Grubb
- In memory: **Canon B. McMahan**
- Donor: Mrs. Joe R. Grubb
- In memory: **Emily Shurley**
- Donors: Bishop & Mrs. Gerald McAllister
Ms. Nira Smith
The Murry & Moerlins Families

Tai Chi

- In memory: **George Rohleder**
- Donor: Dr. Ellen R. Oakes

A Vestry Review by Gypsy Hogan

Another Memorial Run has come and gone, leaving St. Paul's churchgoers sharing stories of miraculous efforts to get to church that morning. Kudos go to Allen Christ, Tim and Amy Fischer who valiantly kept opening and closing barriers so that St. Paul's members could get into the parking lots. Dean Back expressed a desire for finding a better balance between having "wide tolerance" and a reasonable chance to enjoy Sunday services. Following the philosophy of, "If you don't make noise, you disappear," efforts will be made to work with race officials to aid churchgoers' passage during next year's run.

The abundance of rain has brought an abundance of leaks, including new spots showing along the east wall of the Cathedral. Parish Administrator Allen Christ is tracking these Cathedral leaks, they have a long and complicated history. Vestry approved the needed funds to repair two leaks in the Back building. Hopefully one day, St. Paul's will put to rest the slogan, "When it rains, it leaks."

Details of the planned St. Paul's Columbarium continue to be finalized. Meanwhile, work will commence on a permanent storage building in the north parking lot, paid from RTF funds. The Cojac building will be used to store the barbecue grills and gardening equipment, among other things. This will allow clean-up in the northeast corner of the St. Paul's Garden in anticipation of Columbarium work. The storage building will cover about 1.5 parking spaces adjacent to the air conditioner area.

Plans for a new St. Paul's directory continue, with delivery sometime in June. Each household will receive a copy. Additional copies will be available in the St. Paul's Bookstore for a small fee.

Want to be a part of the upcoming Watonga Vacation Bible School, planned for June 24-26? Check with Canon Carol Hampton for various volunteer and resource needs.

Want to Twitter, Flickr or Facebook? St. Paul's is now in the total technological groove. Just go to the St. Paul's Web site at www.stpaulsokc.org and sign up for your personal tech favorite – or just look at the photos posted to see if you are somewhere in the mix! Hopefully, any and all of the experiences will just make everyone more interested in being a living part of the ever-evolving St. Paul's fellowship.

Speaking of technological advances, St. Paul's will host its first-ever Webinar at 3 PM Thursday, June 25, in Dean Willey Hall. Everyone's invited to see history in the making as Father Luke and Michael Vogt, through modern technology, tell Episcopalians nationwide how they manage information overload as they discuss, "Overloaded and Understaffed." The event will last one hour. It is being done at the request of the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes after a similar presentation the St. Paul's Duo did at the consortium's national meeting in New Orleans earlier this year.

Vestry affirmed the Outreach Commission's decision to donate \$200 to this summer's Camp New Hope program for children with incarcerated parents.

The unexpected death of a long-time, dependable volunteer has left St. George's Guild in desperate need of volunteers to help unload truck deliveries made around 8:30 AM one Thursday morning each month. Unloading takes about 30 minutes. Please contact Rachel Pringle at 427-0105 if you can help.

The St. Paul's budget continues to be in the Red, but feeling Pretty Pink as the Blessed Day subscriptions stand at about \$35,000, increased pledges at \$25,000 which make a \$60,000 hole in the \$132,000 budget deficit for 2009. However, we are entering the summer months when pledges tend to fall behind and when the Oklahoma economy may feel more of the national slowdown. So, please remember St. Paul's in your prayers and your checkbooks.

Back Talk

Dear Friends,

I was having lunch in a restaurant and my seat faced a large TV. There was a political talk show on screen and the sound was turned off. The agitator, oddly called a moderator, throws a piece of fresh, raw, political meat between two pit bulls trained by competing parties. Their eyes narrow, their jaws snap, and their heads jerk and contort. But unlike real dogs, they also produce a grimace of 'aghasted' innocence, of outraged righteous indignation, at the vileness of their opposition.

Vast electronic Coliseums stay open 24/7 to feed blood appetites. By selecting a particular show and host you can pick your own version of reality. My group, the Angels, get to tear up your group, the Demons. Provocation to polarization is part of a larger rudeness in a culture of competition for emotive and ideological dominance. Airwaves are full of the droning of Godless liturgies of obscenity, blasphemy, vulgarity, complaining, trashing, and whining.

Religionists are not innocent of the abuse of language to deform, rather than inform, humanity and truth. Northrop Frye in his book *The Great Code* speaks of how we 'entomb God in dead language'. 'God' is subjected to the will and whim of combatants possessed by their own knowledge of good and evil. 'God' is reduced to manufactured terms of belief and disbelief.

Theological war games take place where the sound of 'God' is turned off. The word 'God' when said in spirit and truth, in reverence and realization, is never a provocation to argument, but an invocation of divine presence and holy

peace. Saul found out traumatically, that no way, could he ride his high horse into the presence of the risen Christ.

The real world is full of many painful problems in regard to health, crime, poverty, pollution, oppression, and numerous other challenges. Bad things are real and threatening. There is even a place for righteous anger over the abuse and oppression of God's children. Yet it is political, social and religious enmity that turns painful problems into chronic and tenacious disasters.

In the meantime, through all mean times, we are called by the voice our master teacher to invoke holy words. Cherishing charitable thoughts, encouraging loving feelings, unifying alienated souls, we allow our words to become flesh in the service of Christ's body. We are called to be broadcasters of God's loving, healing, feeding, and forgiving of ourselves, and of our enemies, without bias.

Faithfully,

Gene H. Baker

