



NOVEMBER GOOD NEWS LETTER

Music in November

Taizé Service with St. Paul's Taizé Choir

Sunday, November 4 at 5:00 P.M. in the Cathedral

The St. Paul's Taizé Choir will perform in a service based on the method of prayer utilized in the Taizé community in Taizé, France. It is a time of listening, a time to leave things before God, a time to be before God, to have one's soul open for God. Silence and music are essential elements of Taizé prayer.

Brightmusic - "A Brahms Evening"

Tuesday, November 6 at 7:30 P.M. in the Cathedral

Brightmusic, a wonderful Oklahoma City chamber ensemble, plays music of Johannes Brahms with internationally famous pianist Daniel Blumenthal, Professor, Royal Conservatory, Brussels, Belgium.

Evensong with Cathedral Choir, Anne Roberts and Orchestra

Sunday, November 18 at 5:00 P.M. in the Cathedral

The Cathedral Choir, Anne Roberts and Orchestra perform W.A. Mozart's ebullient solo Cantata Exultate, jubilate K165 with its stunning Alleluia!

Musica Sacra in Concert

Tuesday, November 27 at 7:30 P.M. in the Cathedral

A capella music from the Renaissance to the 21st Century, and the Featured Work will be St. Nicolas Mass by Franz Joseph Haydn with Orchestra.

St. Genesius Guild Returns This Fall

Karen and Dr. Don Resler invite all lovers and readers of drama to join them in monthly evenings of *Readers Theatre* at 7:00 P.M. on the last Tuesday of each month. Call them at 842-4691 or email them at twocats1@cox.net to secure your role. Wine and cheese or such.

Melodrama Reprise

Sunday, November 18, in Dean Willey Hall, at 10:15 A.M.

Boo the villains and cheer for the good guys. This exciting play set in Oklahoma territorial days shortly before statehood was written in 1974 by St. Paul's parishioner Lib Sullivan. Lots of fun will be had by all, old and young alike.

Coming in the Spring

Our Good Angel—a Musical with music, lyrics and book by our own Doug Rogez.

Fruit Cake or Christmas Joy? Christmasjoybook.com

Instead of giving your friends and family fruit cakes this year, consider giving them *Christmas Joy: Let Heaven and Nature Sing*. This new book by Dean Back is based upon twenty-five years of *Christmas Back Talk* letters to the congregation, and will be distributed to every household in our Cathedral directory. Copies may be purchased for \$9.95 in the Cathedral Book Store and online at ChristmasJoyBook.com.



Live. Local. Bread-breaking.

A Vestry Review by Kimberly Lohman Suiters

Closer to Our Columbarium

Picture yourself walking north off of 7th Street, through the Memorial Gate, over a labyrinth-inscribed piazza shaded by tall trees, to the heart of the Columbarium. The niches within will feature artistic door panels (think doors of Florence, not post office boxes). Contemplation, serenity, respect, and comfort fill up your senses. Artists will be sought out to provide sculptures, mosaics, and other outdoor creations. TAP architect Hans Butzer presented this concept. Vestry authorized Butzer to proceed to the next phase -- schematic design. The steps to follow: funding and support, artwork selection, and finally, construction.

Down-Home & Up-High Thank-You's

On a hand-crafted note featuring dried decorative leaves and brightly-colored stickers, Joe Konieczny and his wife gave glowing praise for the consecration of their nephew, The Right Rev. Dr. Ed Konieczny. Uncle Joe & Aunt Colleen paid "heartly thanks" to St. Paul's. "We were loved and feted and fed (goodness how we were fed!)." Dean Back called the note one of the nicest he's ever seen.

Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori typed an elegant note to our congregation after receiving a 2007 Broken Cross Pendant. "I greatly appreciate the pendant... I continue to be grateful for your witness to the reality and power of both brokenness and the resurrection. May God continue to bless your flourishing ministry..."

Mission Trip: Our Backyard

Important mission work is being done right here in south Oklahoma City. The call came from Santa Maria Virgen, an Episcopal mission: help us learn to speak English, to set up a food pantry, to keep our children out of gangs. To answer the call, contact Lucy Smith (lucy.smith@cox.net).

Lillian Benefee is on a mission of sorts. Vestry approved her nomination as a General Convention deputy. In her words, she strives "To serve the church better in ways that will bring diverse people closer together and improve the lives of those who are oppressed and forgotten."

Our Downtown Legacy

Vestry-members successfully hosted a "Happy Hour of Spirits and Inspiration" for 40 people at the Legacy apartments downtown. Canon Luke provided welcoming remarks, answered questions, and ran a slide show of your best moments at St. Paul's. Hank Bowen learned about Pinot Noir and Red Bicycleette while charming a 4-year old who told his mother, "Mom, I love Hank."

- Contact Kimberly Suiters (suiters@cox.net) if you would like to have the Cathedral community inspire your downtown neighborhood to come to our house more often.
- Contact James Collins (jacsongs@sbcglobal.net) if you have interest in a St. Paul's Camera Club to document Cathedral life and share shutterbug tips.
- Contact Canon Luke (lback@stpaulsokc.org) if you want to join the George Back (Jr.) Fan Club and an Oct. 27th matinee viewing of The Comebacks, the youngest Back's Hollywood debut.

Bread-breaking continued

Be Celtic! Go Irish!

She's a Fighting Irishman, Tinker AWACs crew member, and the daughter of a priest, but the PB is not her mother. St. Paul's is pleased to welcome our new youth assistant, Laura Ott.

Summer Lovin'

Normally, August is traditionally a slow month for giving, but not this year. Thanks to a \$30k gift to So Much More, several weddings, and steady pledging, we were above-budget the last two months. Thank you for giving, giving, and giving again.

Youth News

Advent Crafts and Shoebox Gifts

In anticipation of our annual *Advent Event*, November 25 at 10:10 A.M. in Dean Willey Hall, craft-people with ideas to share are invited to call Karen Jarvis. Cheri Tompkins has the angel ornament covered, but other crafts are needed. Also, remember to save your shoeboxes for filling & wrapping for the children of Santa Maria de Virgen and Watonga's Whirlwind Mission. Look for more details in next month's newsletter.

Advent Youth Choir

The *Advent Youth Choir*, under the direction of Mary Reynolds, will begin meeting Wednesday, November 28, and continue meeting for the next three weeks. A family supper will be served in Dean Willey Hall at 6:00 PM, to be followed by choir practice and Dean Back's offering, *Christmas Joy, Let Heaven and Nature Sing*. Watch the Sunday bulletins for more details.

Not Just Youth News Flash

Guitar Weekend

Interested in guitar? Serious players and beginners are invited to the third annual *Guitar Weekend*, November 9–10 at St. Crispin's. "This retreat is for **anyone** who loves the guitar." To register, email Vycke McEwen at vycke@sbcglobal.net, or contact Penny Williams at oklaborn@sbcglobal.net or at 918-336-2925. Space is limited, so don't delay.

Memorials & Contributions

ALTAR GUILD

In memory: *Charles Nesbitt*

Donors: Ms. Sally Alworth

COLUMBARIUM

In memory: *Bobbie Lindsey*

Donors: Mr. & Mrs. Ralph L. Edwards

In memory: *Natalie Drownicky*

Donors: Mr. & Mrs. Bob Matthews

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory: *Robert Kott*

Donors: Ms. Carolyn Clifford
Dr. & Mrs. Harrison Smith

In memory: *Bobbie Lindsey*

Donors: Tracy L. Cheek & Jeffrey M. Love
Ms. & Mrs. Jimmy Friend
Mr. & Mrs. David R. Kniffen
The Massey & Esher Families
ERA Branson McKiddy Real Estate
Mr. & Mrs. Emmet Osgood & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Vance Winningham

MUSIC SOCIETY

In memory: *Robert Kott*

Donors: Ms. Vickie Norick
Mr. William Bross

In memory: *Charles Nesbitt*

Donors: Mr. James A. Collins

OAKERHATER GUILD

In memory: *Robert Kott*

Donors: Mr. & Mrs. Frank Dennis

ST. GEORGE'S GUILD

In memory: *Robert Kott*

Donors: Dr. & Mrs. Donald Resler



Birthdays



November 1

William Sonntag

November 2

Andrew Haralson

November 3

Gary Derrick
Robert Harris
Joseph Lewis

November 4

Austin Cox
Kathryn Cummings
Tom Lay
Rachel Smith

November 5

Courtney Stephens

November 6

Janice Eberhard

November 7

Rick Harris
Heather Meyer
Reed Roush

November 9

Thomas Gens
Beatrice Metitiri

November 10

Anthony Warren

November 11

Bruce Grummer
Jack Sund

November 12

Margaret Back
Ben Turner, Jr.
Emily Young

November 13

Madeline Benham
Robert Highsaw
David Wright

November 14

Kathy Burris
Virginia Hefner
Scott St. John

November 15

Suzanne Edmondson
Jerry Ellington
Michael Lewis

November 16

Kate Jewett-Williams

November 18

Jill Adler
Marshall Binns
Mardy Grubb
Karen Jarvis
Kim Kueteman

November 19

Donna Corjay
Patricia Kerr
Dan Morgan
Gregory Steels
Cooper Welsh

November 20

Mike Mahaffey

November 21

Paul Tlucek

November 22

James Collins
Cara Collinson
Helen McAllister
Brian Raper

November 23

Michael Blake
Bart Wells

November 24

Anna Jones

November 25

Tim Lindsey
Blake Morgan
Bryan Stanton

November 26

Linda Massad
Reda Miller
Chris Moody

November 27

Karen Tucker

November 28

Ethel Donham
Elizabeth King
Lisa Prior

November 29

Diana Hampton
Liz Little
Nancy Nagle
Betty Rowntree
John Tolbert
Gracelyn Tramba

November 30

Kelley Dowd

*If you have a birthday in November and your birthday is **not** listed, please let us know! (235-3436)*

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

The Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA

The Right Reverend Dr. Edward Konieczny

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

The Very Rev. George H. Back, Dean

The Rev. Canon Susan Colley Joplin

The Rev. Canon Carol M. Hampton

The Rev. Canon Nathaniel Luke Back

The Rev. Canon Margôt L. Nesbitt

CATHEDRAL OFFICERS

Stephen Parker, Senior Warden

Tom Steiner, Junior Warden

Rick Hill, Treasurer

Rachel Pringle, Clerk

VESTRY

2007

James Collins

Carol Howard

Laurie Jones

Karl Rysted

2008

Robert Dennis

Fran Derrick

John Koons

Kimberly Suiters

2009

Hank Bowen

Dian Everett

Patti Morgan

Sheryl Sullivan

CATHEDRAL STAFF

H. Scott Raab, Canon Musician

Allen Christ, Parish Administrator

Michael Vogt, Information Coordinator

Marilyn Robertson, Parish Nurse

Anne Kueteman, Cathedral Ministries Coordinator

Karen Jarvis, Christian Education Coordinator

Ann Bonsteel, Bookkeeper

Marilyn Rogez, Childcare

Tommy Shoemake, Sexton

Eric Ashong, Assistant Sexton

Gail Dyer, Kitchen Staff

BACK TALK

Dear Friends,

Margaret and I recently visited a Hollywood film lot. We saw a small pond that had been used to shoot a sequence for a New Orleans flood scene. They had filled it with house roofs and power pole tops for that production.

The same pond had been used for swamp scenes in horror movies and for picnic scenes in the *Gilmore Girls*. All sorts of heroes and villains had run in and out of the wooded area around it as if they had been moving through miles of forest and were now approaching a river bank or lake shore. Everything depended on the camera angle and the cues provided by various props.

Directors save their studios a lot of money by creatively using such a small handy location in multiple ways. Small children have similar skills to produce an immense amount of entertainment out of small and modest resources. One sees children in poverty who are not yet aware of what it means to be poor. A simple mud puddle can be an overflowing pool of fun.

While poverty is an economic reality, it is more fundamentally a spiritual reality. Even famous film directors must play within the production's budget. The famous flops of big budgeted movies and the success of small budgeted ones reveal the challenging balance between creative possibilities and quantitative limitations. Most directors must prove themselves with small productions before they will be trusted with large-scale investments.

To be faithful and trusted in small things is part of an attitude toward reality that is interactive, flexible, curious and humble. It is like a child at play. It is like Jesus teaches us to be through his Gospel words. Those who learn this perspective on earth will be appreciative and responsive to the even greater abundance and creativity God provides in heaven.

How creative are you at being thankful? Could you see and express a hundred 'gratitudes' today? Like a potter with mud, can you form a 'beatitude' out of the mere dust and water of yourself? Out of very modest circumstances, the divine Director and Master Teacher of our souls, may weave together events comic and tragic to create a magnificent love story out of a basic human life.

Imagine an unknown, nobody, sinner, falling in love with the Creator of Heaven and Earth! It is the role for which you were created. The Lord promises that the entire host of heaven is looking forward to seeing you star in glory.

Faithfully yours,

Gene H. Back

