



November 2008 GoodNewsLetter

Important Info

Many, Many Thanks!

Please accept my sincere thanks for all the many gifts, cards, and good wishes that I have received before, during and since my 30th Anniversary celebration on October 5. As usual, the Cathedral exceeded all expectations in terms of warmth and affection – not to mention far too many gifts at the presentation time. And the receptions were wonderful (with a not to be soon forgotten chocolate fountain). My thanks also to the Vestry for commissioning the new anthem, *Love* by Gerald Near, one of my personal favorite contemporary composers. It will be sung on many occasions in the future and is appropriate for the Pentecost season as well as St. Paul's Day. It is both a pleasure and a privilege to serve the parish as your Canon Musician and I look forward to many more days of music-making with all of you.

God Bless You,
Scott

Formation

Anticipating Advent

“Prepare the Way O Zion”

Day of the Dead Celebration

Sunday, November 2 at 10:10 AM

Dean Willey Hall

Join us on Sunday for a special forum where we will learn about the Mexican holiday *Dia de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead) and partake in the celebration. The Day of the Dead celebrations take place all over Mexico on November 1 & 2 and coincide with the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls. These celebrations are a time to celebrate, remember and honor deceased loved ones.

Mexican food traditions typically shared at Day of the Dead celebrations, and at the Forum we, too, will enjoy some delicious Mexican food.

Forum – Celebrating Church Partnerships

Sunday, November 23, 10:10 AM

The Rev. Jim Kee-Rees, Diocesan Indian Missioner, will be with us to help kick off our Advent celebrations. He will be our guest preacher and also enlighten us about Whirlwind Mission in Watonga at the Forum.

We will also learn about our partnership with Santa Maria de Virgen in South Oklahoma City.

Advent Programs

*Wednesday Evenings, December 3, 10 & 17,
with Supper in Dean Willey Hall*

Programs for Advent will include the *Youth Pageant Choir Rehearsal, Christmas Around the World,* and *Prayer Styles.*

Fellowship

Guitar Week-end at St. Crispin's

November 7–8

According to www.okepiscopal-youth.org, “This retreat is for anyone who loves the guitar... from the very basic beginners who have never touched a guitar before to the more advanced guitarists. The retreat will be divided into adults and youth sessions with beginning guitar through accomplished players in each. There will be classes in percussion as well.”

Led by the Rev. Hal Greenwood and Lindy Hearne, the retreat begins with dinner at 6:00, Friday, 11/7 and ends with an acoustic Eucharist at 1:00 PM, Saturday, 11/8.

Register on-line or e-mail Penny Williams at oklaborn@sbcglobal.net for more information. Call or e-mail Karen Jarvis for scholarship information.

ECW Advent Quiet Day

Saturday, December 6, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

The Episcopal Church Women will host Advent Quiet Day, celebrating the Feast of St. Nicholas with Canon Carol Hampton as the speaker.

Youth

Rite 13 Liturgy

Sunday, November 16 at 9:00 AM Service

Please join our junior high school youth and their families as we celebrate the special liturgy known as *Rite 13: A Celebration of Manhood and Womanhood*. In this service, we recognize our youth's maturation into manhood and womanhood as a gift from God. The liturgy states that “God calls us to use this gift to build and not to destroy;” and as they begin to make their own choices, adulthood is both learned and earned. Thank you for supporting these young people in their faith.

Music

Organ Recital – Dr. Jason Roberts, Guest Organist

November 9 at 5:00 PM

Dr. Jason Roberts was the First Prize Winner at the 2008 American Guild of Organists National Competition in Organ Improvisation, and is currently the Organist-Choirmaster at St. James Episcopal Church in West Hartford, CT.



Dr. Jason Roberts

Evensong with the Cathedral Choir – Te Deum

November 16 at 5:00 PM

Te Deum in C by Benjamin Britten (in Britten's version for strings and harp) and English music for strings

Choral Eucharist with the Cathedral Choir

November 30 at 11:00 AM

The Cathedral Choir sings *Mass in F* by William H. Harris.

Memorials & Contributions

Endowment Fund

In memory: **William Blaik**

Donors: Mr. & Mrs. Michael Mahaffey

In memory: **Barbara Shook**

Donors: Mr. & Mrs. Michael Mahaffey

Memorial Fund

In memory: **LaVerne Lawley**

Donors: Mr. Robert P. White

In memory: **Martha Nagle**

Donors: Mr. Robert P. White

Vestry Nominations & Delegates Sought

Nominations

Nominations are being sought for Vestry and Convention Delegates to be elected at the Annual Meeting in January, 2009.

Each adult communicant of the Cathedral is encouraged to participate in the nominating process: to prayerfully and carefully consider potential nominees. Is there someone you would like to represent your interests? Ask if he or she would be willing to stand for election and if so to fill out a nomination form. Perhaps you want to serve on the Vestry or as a Delegate. You too, should feel free to submit a nomination form.

Forms will be available in the church office. Take them or mail them to the Cathedral, attention: Nomination Gathering Committee. Listed below are the offices for which nominations are sought.

Qualifications for these offices

Confirmed communicants in good standing of age eighteen years or more.

Communicant in good standing: All communicants of this Church who for the previous year have been faithful in corporate worship, unless for good cause prevented, and have been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God, are to be considered communicants in good standing. (National Church Canons, I.17.3)

Offices up for Election

4 Vestry Persons

3 year terms (2008–2010)

Duties

The vestry has three primary responsibilities; to take care of the parish finances and parish building; to choose individuals to fill various positions of parish leadership and representation. As representatives of the interests of all parish members, they play a liaison role between them, the clergy and staff. Members are expected to serve on a committee or commission of the Cathedral.

Meetings

Monthly meetings on the second Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM Vestry Workshop will be held soon after the Annual Parish Meeting, and the Vestry retreat is in the Spring.

9 Delegates to Diocesan Convention

1 year term (2008)

Duties

As representatives of the Cathedral to the Convention, elected delegates are responsible for attending the regional meetings (dates to be announced), and the Diocesan Convention, which will take place November 19–21, 2009 in Bartlesville.

Statements will be printed in the Sunday bulletin prior to the Annual Meeting.

Outreach

A New Musical – *Our Good Angel*

On November 15 and 16, players from St. Genesius Guild will perform highlights from the musical, *Our Good Angel*, presented in informal, readers-theater style. *Our Good Angel* concerns the life and work of Kate Barnard, a progressive reformer at the time of Oklahoma's statehood, and also the first woman elected to public office in the nation's history. The main character of the play is a reporter named Rebecca, who is impacted by Kate Barnard's concern for the poor and her active role in abolishing torture in prisons and asylums, fighting corruption, and standing up for the rights of the powerless.

Fundraiser Dinner for St. George's Guild

Saturday, November 15, 6:00 PM

Dean Willey Hall

The *Our Good Angel* excerpts will immediately follow a fundraiser dinner benefiting St. George's Guild. Dinner will begin at 6:00 PM, and the suggested donation for the dinner theater is \$10, and tickets will be available beginning October 26.

Sunday Performance

Sunday, November 16, 10:10 AM

Dean Willey Hall

Another performance of *Our Good Angel* will take place at 10:10 AM on November 16.

For more info, contact Doug Rogez at 204-0396 or mynotes4u@yahoo.com.

Advent Event

10:10 AM, Sunday, November 30,

Dean Willey Hall

Everyone is invited to an inter-generational activity for all to make seasonal crafts, eat cookies and drink hot cider, and decorate and fill gift bags for the children of Santa Maria.

Annual Christmas Visitation to Santa Maria

Monday, December 1 at 6:00 PM

Come and be a part of our annual trip to our Latino Episcopal Church in South Oklahoma City, 2141 SW 25th St.

We'll have Advent Lessons and Carols in English and Spanish, a reception, and we will be giving gifts to the children of Santa Maria.

A Vestry Review by Gypsy Hogan

'Day of the Dead' Planned

St. Paul's will celebrate All Saints Day on Sunday, Nov. 2, with "Day of the Dead" activities, or Dia de los Muertos as it is known in Mexico. Everyone's invited to bring a photo of deceased loved ones. They will be placed in St. Nicholas Chapel where special prayers will be said. Other activities are being planned, so stay tuned.

Celebrating Our Partner Parishes

Rev. Jim Kee-Rees from the Whirlwind Mission in Watonga will be guest speaker at St. Paul's on Sunday, Nov. 23, as part of a week-long series of events to celebrate our partnerships with Whirlwind and the Santa Maria Mission in Oklahoma City.

Join the fun Sunday, Nov. 30, as we fill gift sacks for the children at Santa Maria and Whirlwind.

Then plan to join the visit to Santa Maria on St. Andrew's Day, Dec. 1, for Advent lessons and carols – and to deliver the gifts.

Let the Show Begin!

Don't miss our St. Genesius Guild performing *Our Good Angel*, written and produced by our own Doug Rogez.

Performances will be at 6 PM Saturday, Nov. 15, and at 10:10 AM Sunday, Nov. 16. Both presentations will be in Dean Willey Hall.

Missing Something?

By now, everyone should have received their Stewardship packets, enjoyed the wonderful CD prepared by Fr. Luke, and had a chance to fill out and return their pledge card for the coming church year.

If you haven't received your packet, or misplaced it, please call the church office. We don't want you to miss out on this opportunity to support our Cathedral home and its many ministries.

Cathedral, Sweet Cathedral

Junior Warden Tom Steiner reported that the Cathedral's three Back Building compressor units are now safe from would-be thieves. A chain-link fence with metal inserts now provides a 12-foot barrier.

In addition, bricks in the courtyard area have been removed, tree roots trimmed and bricks replaced so that they don't pose quite the triphazard.

As for the smell in the Parish House, a dead squirrel was found and removed.

Time to smell the coffee!

Super Healthy Health Fair

Deacon Marilyn Robertson reported that more than 100 people participated in the St. Paul's Health Fair, held Oct. 12 in Dean Willey Hall. Plus, 70 of those rolled up their sleeves for a flu shot. Our resident nurse in collar was pleased.

Heard that Crackle?

Have you noticed during Sunday services a crackle in the sound system? Sound experts say that is being caused by people walking by the sound booth with their cell phones turned on. So, there is a thought that cell phones might be turned off or put on airplane mode when entering the church. Just a thought, maybe a suggestion...

Back Talk

Dear Friends,

'What's your credit score? The world is always asking. The ultimate meaning of credit extends far beyond the boundaries of this world.

Centuries before worldly economics emerged, theologians spoke of the 'Divine Economy'. The word 'economy' comes forth from the Greek οίκος – 'house' + Νόμος – 'to manage'. 'Economy' meant God's management of the household of heaven and earth.

One can easily see how economy moved from a religious context to a financial one. Religion is about the worth-ship of God. Economics is about the worth-ship of various goods and services.

The term *credit* has a similar origin. *Credit* is from the Latin verb *credere*. It is best known in the ancient word *credo* which literally means "heart I give". *Credo*, or 'I give my heart', or 'I trust', or 'I believe' or 'I credit' – all of these could be used to translate the Christian Creed.

- I credit God the Father, for the creation of heaven and earth.
- I credit God for every infant born into this world.
- I credit God for investing in my existence.
- I credit God as the giver of my soul, my body and my mind.
- I credit God as the provider of everyone I love.
- I credit God with giving life to everyone who loves me.
- I credit God in Jesus Christ, the Investor's beloved, born of Mary, who was betrayed, tried, crucified and died for me.
- I credit Christ who has taken my moral debts upon himself, who has bailed out my soul from bankruptcy and included me in God's savings account.

• I credit God the Holy Spirit for the gift of the Church community, the communion of saints, for the forgiveness of sins, for the resurrection of this mortal body and for abundant life in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Financial credit makes the economy move. Blockage in credit, like blockage in a heart artery, causes problems for the entire world financial system. Many find their heart sinking or soaring with the economy. This is God given! Jesus articulated it, 'Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.' The seriously sinking soul will find heaven is the true source of a soaring soul.

When God is credited, faith flows! Worship credits God for beauty, truth and intelligence, therein God is loved in body, mind and soul. The doing of good works in God's name credits God with caring and compassion, therein neighbor and self are loved.

The currency of the Divine Economy is the Holy Spirit. You know that Holy Spirit is flowing in your personal economy when it is producing holy goods and services. St. Paul calls them the fruit of the Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. May God's credit flow through your household, you and God's earth will be blessed.

Faithfully yours,

Gene H. Back



