



**September 2008  
GoodNewsLetter**

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# Formation

## **Bishop Ed – Lambeth Debriefing**

*Thursday, Sept. 4, 6:30 PM, in Dean Willey Hall*

The once-a-decade Lambeth Conference, where Bishops from around the world met to discuss topics affecting the wider church, recently came to an end. Now, Bishop Ed will be speaking to us about his Lambeth experience at the Cathedral on Sept. 4.

## **Moving More Deeply into The Book of Kells**

*Wednesday Evenings 7:00-8:30 PM Sept. 10–17*

What has the Book of Kells to do with our 21<sup>st</sup> Century souls? Like a messenger from another world it presents a fresh image not only of the Gospel but of the nature of our own souls. The Dean will lead an examination of the fascinating images that are presented in this 6th Century masterpiece.

## **OKC Food Co-op**

*Sunday, Sept. 14, 10:10 AM, Dean Willey Hall*

Chelsea Simpson, Outreach Manager for the OKC Food Co-op and the Greening Commission, will present this forum. Come hear how to be a part of a group that will help you eat local, Oklahoma-grown food.

## **Health News**

*Wednesday, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, in the Undercroft*

The St. Paul's Health Team will be offering a First Aid training course on Wednesday, September 17, and a CPR course on Wednesday, October 15, from 6:00–8:30 PM in the Undercroft. The cost is only \$10.00, so sign up today by calling the Cathedral office at 235-3436 or Marilyn at 590-5266. Make sure to take advantage of this wonderful learning opportunity.

## **Naming the Powers**

*The Language of Power in the New Testament*

*The Powers That Be: Theology for a New Millennium* (Wink, 1998) is the basis for this class led by Richard Hicks. Before you vote, come and learn the reasons why things often stay the same year after year. Learn why we keep electing the candidate with the biggest and longest lasting smile. In this class we'll unmask the powers – those unseen forces that determine human existence – and learn to engage the powers with discernment and resistance in a world of domination.

### **Schedule for 10:10 AM Classes**

Sept 21 *Forum* in Dean Willey Hall

Sept 28 *Identifying the Powers*

Oct 5 *The Dominations System*

Oct 12 *Jesus's Answer to Domination and Jesus's Third Way*

Oct 19 *Prayer and the Powers*

## **The Economics of St. Paul's**

*Sunday, Sept. 28, 10:10 AM in Dean Willey Hall*

Rick Hill, Treasurer and John Koons, Stewardship Chair, present a forum called *Looking Behind and Ahead: Setting an Ideal Budget for 2009*, giving you a chance to better understand the economics of the Cathedral.

## **Inquirers' Class**

*Sunday, Sept. 28, 10:10 AM in the Parlor*

Whether you're a newcomer or oldtimer, if you have any questions about the Episcopal Church or St. Paul's Cathedral, the Inquirers' Class is for you. All questions are welcomed and discussed; some may even be answered. Join us for the first class on Sunday, Sept 28 at 10:15 AM in the Parlor or join us on any following Sunday mornings through November. Contact Canon Carol Hampton for further information at [champton@stpaulsokc.org](mailto:champton@stpaulsokc.org).

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# Music

## Choral Evensong with Musica Sacra

September 21 at 5:00 PM

A Concert of Renaissance motets by de la Rue, Viadana, Morley, Croce, Victoria, Parsons and Sweelinck



Morton Zeuthen

## Brightmusic – Danish Serenade

September 30 at 7:30 PM

Concert with guest cellist Morten Zeuthen, including the *Cello Sonata* by Richard Strauss, *Serenade for Clarinet, Cello and Piano* by Emil Hartmann, “*Bravour Studien*” (1976) by Poul Ruders, and *Trio op. 11* by Ludwig van Beethoven

# Memorials & Contributions

## Memorial Fund

In memory: **LaVerne Lawley**

Donors: Mr. & Mrs. Frank Dennis  
Mrs. Joe R. Grubb  
Mr. F.X. Loeffler, Jr.  
Ms. Lauren S. Steakley  
Mr. & Mrs. Roy E. Yates

In memory: **Doris Bratton**

Donors: Mrs. Joe R. Grubb

## Mobile Meals

In memory: **LaVerne Lawley**

Donors: Ms. Barbara Patterson

## Columbarium Fund

In memory: **Laverne Lawley**

Donor: Mr. & Mrs. George Massad

In memory: **Martha Nagle**

Donor: Mr. & Mrs. George Massad

In memory: **Fern Cooper**

Donor: Mr. Donald E. Weaver

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# Youth

## Church School News – Time To Mark Your Family Calendars!

Sept. 7 **Rally Day** – All families are invited to register children for our church school. If returning, please fill out new form.

**Harn Homestead Picnic** at 5:00 PM Moonwalk, music & kickball with chicken and lemonade provided. Bring a dish to share, and bring a lawn chair, too. Harn Homestead is at 1721 N. Lincoln. **Note:** There's a new entrance off North Lincoln Blvd.

Sept. 14 **Church School Begins** at 10:10 AM

Sept. 21 **Teachers Commissioning** at both 9:00 and 11:00 with Classroom Blessing at 10:10 in the undercroft.

## St. Nicholas' Guild Meeting

St. Nicholas' Guild enjoys fellowship as it supports activities for our children, and for those of our neighbors, both nearby and far away. All St. Paul's members are welcome to these quarterly meetings.

Join us for the next St. Nicholas' Guild meeting:

*Tuesday, September 16, 6:30 PM*  
Home of Diana Hampton  
15201 Burning Spring Rd.  
Edmond, OK

Please bring a dish to share.

## Safeguarding God's Children

### *Preventing Child Abuse*

*Saturday, Sept. 27, 9:00 AM, Dean Willey Hall*  
The *Safeguarding God's Children* training program will be offered from 9–1 PM Saturday, Sept. 27, at the Cathedral. Rick and Jani Hill will be the presenters.

The program is required training for anyone working with children in church activities. However, many who have attended have said they believe everyone would benefit, and, in turn, all of our children would be safer.

If possible, please call the church office to say you plan to attend so that we'll be sure to have enough materials available.

## 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade News Flash

*October 18–19 at St. Crispin's*

*New Beginnings* is a great retreat weekend led primarily by junior and senior high youth, and it focuses on relationships young teens have with their friends, family, self and God. The next week-end is October 18 and 19 at St. Crispin's. Watch for registration forms in the reception area.

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# Important Information

## Hearts and Hands and Voices



As autumn approaches, it is time to start thinking about our stewardship drive. Our stewardship theme this year is “Now thank we all our God,

with hearts and hands and voices.” We have a lot to be thankful for this year. We rejoice that our pledges are up significantly this year. However, our total income is down. The good news is expenses are down also and we are doing better each month.

I had the opportunity this summer to attend the Episcopal Youth Event in San Antonio as a sponsor. It was wonderful to see kids of the Episcopal Church so excited about their faith. The Presiding Bishop gave a wonderful challenge to the kids about taking care of our environment and being responsible Christians. On Sunday, August 10, kids from all over the diocese attended the Camp Reunion service here at the Cathedral. It was another incredible experience to see our kids so exuberant about the church. I want each of you to start looking around at all of the blessings we have and then on Sunday, October 26, 2008 thank our God with your heart, hands and voice by pledging for 2009 for the continued exciting mission of this wonderful Church.

John R. Koons  
2009 Stewardship Chair

## Mailboxes

Just a quick note to remind everyone that there are mailboxes in the Cathedral office for the guilds, organizations, Vestry, staff and clergy of St. Paul's. If you want to leave something for them, just give it to the person at the front office, and we'll put it in the their mailbox.

# Outreach

## Thank You

For all of you that contributed to the Iraqi Burn Center: A huge *Thank You*. Through your generosity, St. Paul's sent 26 packages of various weights and sizes to Iraq. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you.



# **Twenty-first Annual Honor Dance**

**Saint David Pendleton Oakerhater**

Sponsored by Oklahoma Council of Indian Ministry

*Saturday, September 6, 2008*

*Junior Starr Memorial Dance Grounds and Oakerhater Episcopal Center*

On Saturday, September 6 we will be honoring and celebrating the life of St. David Pendleton Oakerhater with our twenty-first annual honor dance. The honor dance will take place at the newly opened Oakerhater Episcopal Center in Watonga, Oklahoma.

The Day will begin at 2:00 PM with the traditional Gourd Dance, which will be followed by Holy Eucharist at 4:30 PM. After worship, participants will enjoy feasting on fry bread, corn soup and other Native American dishes. A parade and dancing into the night will follow dinner.

The Oakerhater Episcopal Center is located one mile east of Watonga, OK on Highway 33. Turn south on Laing Street across from Legion Park. For more information call:

Rev. Jim Kee-Rees, Indian Missioner (405) 974-8907

Kent Eldridge, Chair of the St. Oakerhater Guild 524-6433

Canon Carol Hampton at 235-3436

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# Fellowship

## Episcopal Church Women Province VII Meeting

### *Be Joyful in the Lord*

September 26–28, at the Sheraton in OKC

We are delighted to join with the Provincial Synod for part of our meeting, so that we can all participate in their program on Lambeth Conference. During this important time for our Church, the Provincial Leadership Team believes everyone will appreciate hearing about this event.

### **Highlights for ECW Province VII Meeting**

- Business Meeting Luncheon with Elections for Officers and Representatives
- Join Synod for the Bishops' presentation
- 8 workshop sessions for *anyone* interested, with a wide variety of spiritual and concrete ministry ideas for your congregations. Bring spouses and friends, the more the merrier!
- Debbie Konieczny, wife of the Bishop of Oklahoma, will reflect on her experiences at Lambeth.
- Free time to relax, go out on your own, or join up with others and experience Oklahoma City.

A report from the Nominations Committee, details of the workshops, and much more can be found at [stpaulsokc.org](http://stpaulsokc.org). See you in September!

## **World Premiere! *Our Good Angel***

St. Paul's Cathedral will present the world premiere of *Our Good Angel*, a St. Genesius Production, on November 15 and 16, 2008. Our own Doug Rogez has written both the book and the music for this musical about Kate Barnard, the first woman in public office in the State of Oklahoma. Ashley Wells will direct. Anyone interested in participating in any way in this musical should contact Doug ([mynotes4u@yahoo.com](mailto:mynotes4u@yahoo.com)) or Ashley ([astovetop@aol.com](mailto:astovetop@aol.com))

## **Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!**

To the parishioners, clergy and staff of St. Paul's Cathedral, thank you so much for the beautiful pyx, so that I can share communion with others. It's a wonderful gift and I have utilized it greatly. It reminds me of the sweet communion that we share with Christ and with each other.

Thank you all for remembering my ordination and giving such a precious gift that I will use frequently in my ministry.

Your Deacon,  
The Rev. Marilyn Robertson

## **Softball Season Wrap-up**

The softball season has come to an end. We had a lot of fun this year, grew closer together as a team and most importantly sustained no major injuries! Our league has 5 teams, including St. Mary's, St. Christopher's, St. James Anglican, and All Souls. We took second place overall on the season. We held a tournament Sunday the 17th at All Souls as a fun way to get all the teams together to end the year. All Souls provided hot dogs and hamburgers and members from all the other teams brought side dishes and desserts. The St. Paul's Angels won the tournament with great defense from the whole team and an exciting tournament winning walk-off home run by Preston Newton. We are already looking forward to next year and invite anyone interested in playing to please contact Casey Richards at 405-919-6500 or [casey.richards@sbcglobal.net](mailto:casey.richards@sbcglobal.net).

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# A Vestry Review by Gypsy Hogan

## **Big Happenings**

Vestry heard a full report on plans for Rally Day and the Harn Homestead Picnic, both planned for Sunday, Sept. 7. Rally Day is when church youth sign up for the start of fall Sunday school. And the annual Harn Homestead picnic is both fun and great dining at the historic Harn Homestead. Everyone's encouraged to mark your calendars and plan to attend.

## **Spreading the Plan**

St. Paul's has been asked to help present at the Diocesan Convention Nov. 14 a workshop on Newcomers, Fellowship and Congregational Development. Evidently word of how we meet and engage newcomers and church members has been heard, and others want to know about the newcomer bags, the various fellowship events, the Confirmation class directory and other ways St. Paul's works to make people feel connected. We're both flattered and thrilled to share.

## **Trouble Hearing?**

Reports surfaced of some having trouble hearing the service in the Cathedral. Is it the sound system, operator error, individual difficulties, old problems, new problems or all of the above? More speakers could help. More information is needed. In the meantime, any individuals having difficulty should speak to an usher about helpful equipment that is available.

## **Inquiring Minds**

Want to know more about why we Episcopalians do what we do? Or what do we really believe? The St. Paul's Inquirers Class will start Sept. 28, the last Sunday in September. The series of classes is for newcomers as well as old-timers who want a better understanding, or just some questions answered.

## **Camp Reunion Big Success**

St. Paul's hosted Sept. 10 a St. Crispin's Camp Reunion for area Episcopal youth who attended the Episcopal camp this summer. John Koons, an annual camp counselor, reported that this year's reunion was the best ever with 140 to 200 kids gathered at St. Paul's for a cookout, service and fellowship.

## **Wedding Bells Still Ringing**

Since May, St. Paul's has had 12 weddings scheduled at the Cathedral! Eleven now have been performed with just one more before Thanksgiving. Vestry member Robert Dennis, also an Altar Guild member, praised Ashley Ozan for much of the events' success. Ashley's been super, he said, about keeping everyone organized, notified and things running smoothly. And did we mention that she and husband Charles just had their second baby, Charlotte Grace, born Aug. 7? Way to go Ashley!

## **St. George's Guild Needs Help!**

St. George's Pantry Coordinator Rachel Pringle said that while the food shortages are improving, the number of people needing services is increasing, with many who have never sought services before. And there's a shortage of volunteers. However, the rewards of helping those who really need it keep her showing up, she said. For anyone who has ever thought about giving or helping, now is the time.

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# Back Talk

Dear Friends,

The Olympic games generated great interest and media coverage overflowed. Many people were excited and energized to watch these events. By contrast, the Lambeth conference of Anglican bishops disappeared from view when it labored to be a shared church in the middle of significant cultural, social and political differences. How boring it that!

When religious partisans do not display noisy hostility the world is not interested. Why is the hard work of integrating divisive thoughts and feelings, of reconciling divergent economic, political and social perspectives, so dull to so many?

People identify with the athletes who are struggling to do their personal best in a world filled with competition and hazards. In these sports, the international tensions, long standing alienations and conflicts, are ritualized. Tremendous effort and diligence must be exerted to keep the competition fair. There are numerous and strenuous Olympic committee meetings on the organizational rules and regulations. Such gatherings, like the Lambeth conference, are generally ignored.

St. Paul says, 'athletes workout to achieve an earthly crown'. He urges us to strive to be like them, but for the heavenly gold. The true spiritual athlete faces the hardest 'work out' on earth. He or she must 'work out' of one's own personal self-interests to enter into the truth that interests God. (Refer to Mathew 4-6 for a summary of the Christian work out chart.)

God's religion is boring to self-centered people. Self-centered spirituality is much easier and personally fascinating. All by myself I can think up great thoughts and feel profound feelings, especially when I am free of the obnoxious real world. Religion that competes with sin – the sin first within the self, secondly like it, the neighbor's sin – requires daily cross bearing exercises and workouts.

The spectacular opening of the Beijing games might be seen as a small glimpse of the opening ceremonies of heaven for faithful spiritual athletes. *After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. Rev. 7:9* The Lambeth conference of bishops did not look quite this glorious, but the church on earth abides as the training camp for the Kingdom of Heaven. Let everyone with a soul, go for the gold!

Faithfully yours,

*Gene H. Back*

