

Volume
08/09

Ascension & Holy Trinity,
Episcopal Church
334 Burns Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45215

August
2009



CONNECTIONS

AUGUST

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

*On Sunday Holy Eucharist is celebrated at
8am & 9:30am in the Church*

9:15am Nursery care in the lower level Nursery.

On Wednesdays Holy Eucharist is celebrated at 10am
(in the Memorial Chapel of Ascension & Holy Trinity)

On the 4th Tuesday in the Month at 4pm
Holy Eucharist is celebrated in the Chapel at Evergreen.

Contact the church:

(513) 821-5341 or e-mail: aht@eos.net

WWW.ASCENSIONHOLYTRINITY.COM



News from the Pews

August Birthdays

2. Robert Gorman
3. Anne Neumeister
4. Nick Finke
5. Susan Hymes
6. Ryan Spore
David Allardyce
8. Gary Metzger
10. Brad Zoller
11. Dave Wakefield
12. Kimberly Cooper
14. Brooke Zoller
15. Sally Gieringer
19. Mary Tess Irvine
20. Mary Elaine Ervin
21. Patricia Davis,
Caroline Felner
23. Jim Damico
26. Debby Palmisano
27. Eric Roeseler
29. James Felner

Anniversaries

2. Stan & Marion Miller
4. Alan & Bonnie Mellish
11. Matt & Karla Dugan
15. Ralph & Mary Corley
Jim & Marty Neumeister
Jerry & Karen Salmen
19. Ralph & Dee Damico
24. Tom & Claudia Barton
26. Tom & Becky Bond
28. Dana & Joan Irvine
Guy & Cindy Belew
29. Margot & Matt Madison
30. Maurice & Gail Bason



PRAYER CONCERNS:

Ethel Dale, Matthew Gillingham,
Mark Herzlick, Ruth & Harry Flewelling,
Janice Timko, Peter Poggiali & Family,
Sandi Osner, David Tate, Vicki Jahns,
Ginny Buechter,
L Cpl Ben Adams, Smitty & Terry,
Tom Fetterman

Forward Day By Day
for
August—October 2009
is now available.
Find your copy on the
book rack in the
hallway adjacent to the
church.

Please call the Parish Office
to add a name to the Prayer List.

July 17, 2009

Dear friends in Christ,

From Bishop Breidenthal:

Today both houses approved the budget of The Episcopal Church for the next triennium (the three-year period from this General Convention to the next in 2012.)

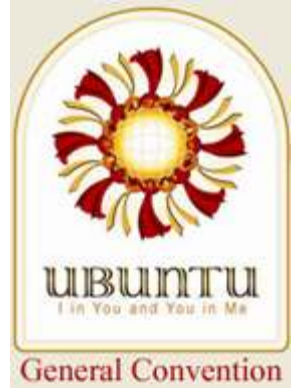
This is an austere and painful budget, reflecting austere and painful times. The draft budget that came to General Convention reflected a 9% decrease from the previous triennium. Program, Budget & Finance, the committee charged with presenting a budget proposal to both Houses, reduced it by another 19%

This means the drastic reduction or elimination of a number of programs, as well as the elimination of more than 30 staff positions, effective immediately.

In accordance with a directive from both Houses, this budget gives priority to mission. There are actually some extra dollars for Hispanic ministry, and ministry to children and young adults. Support for the Millennium Development Goals, reduced in the initial budget proposal, is restored in full. The Episcopal Church's budget continues to devote more than 60% of its budget to mission work, exclusive of salaries. This is something we can be proud of.

I commend Program, Budget & Finance for their hard and diligent work in producing a balanced budget. Our own Jon Boss is on this committee, and I want to thank him especially.

I also would like to express my gratitude to Southern Ohio for continuing to contribute its full share to the Episcopal Church budget. This contribution ultimately supports our own ministries. Just as there are programs and initiatives that can be carried out better at the diocesan level, so there are ministries with a national or global reach that can be best coordinated at the level of the whole church. Our own ministries are strengthened and leveraged when they are combined with those of other dioceses in the Episcopal Church. When we contribute our fair share, we are supporting programs that enhance our own ministries.



(Continued on page 6)

Top needs your help with “Cookies for Kairos” for mid September.



50 dozen chocolate chip and
5 dozen ‘special’ (Brownies or Rick Krispie treat) cookies needed.

Only Home-Baked cookies are used, and if they are made with half butter and half margarine, (all butter become too brittle) breakages are cut considerably!

Tips:

- Cookie mixes, pre-mixed cookie dough (tubes or tubs) from your super-market, or frozen cookie balls from food wholesalers are easy beginnings.
- Try to get the cookies between 2 and 3 inches in diameter.
- Do not over-bake the cookies; helps avoid breakage during shipping & handling.
- No icing or powdered sugar.
- Cook cookies before packaging to they don’t stick together.
- Package 2 dozen per One gallon zipper-lock bag (no metal ties)
- Label the bags for Kairos and place in the freezer compartment of the A&HT kitchen fridge.

Many thanks to all the “Bakers for Kairos”...*Top*

WE NEED YOU!

In September we will celebrate Top's ministry in several ways. One way will be a Memory Book. In order to give her a lasting reminder of her work here, members of the congregation, past or present, are asked to submit entries for this memory book. Anyone who has been touched by her ministry, her friendship, or her active participation in the many other projects she is involved in are invited to submit a letter, remembrance, photographs, or even a quick note. Laura Bence, an accomplished scrap-booker, has agreed to put this book together.



The submissions must be one-sided and collected by Sunday, August 16. Leanne Anderson will collect these entries at her home at 21 Clark Ave, Wyoming. You can also drop them off at the church office. If you have any questions please contact Leanne at 417-8386 or landerson1@cinci.rr.com.

Please participate!

DISABILITY ACCESS AT A&HT.

The ADA Task Force is pleased to report progress on several fronts.



WHEELCHAIR LIFT.

To-date, contributions and pledges amount to 80% of the \$22,990 all-in cost for the wheelchair lift. Certain members of the Task Force are willing to guarantee the full sum will be raised, whether from additional congregation contributions, fund raising events, foundation grants or personal contributions. In view of this, the Vestry has approved placing an order for the equipment. Installation is expected about the last week of September. Contributions towards the \$4,500 balance needed to fully pay for the lift will be greatly appreciated.

FAMILY BATHROOM.

The Task Force proposes conversion of the main women's bathroom to a Family Bathroom, with disability access and an infant care area. The conversion can be done simply and relatively inexpensively--probably no more than \$1,000. ECW members support this proposal and recommend upgrading the bathroom at the same time accessibility work is undertaken. Upgrading suggestions include new sinks, new floor tiling and repainting throughout. Debbie Esposito will develop an upgrading plan.

The conversion plan entails the removal of one toilet from the women's bathroom. To compensate, it is proposed to convert the men's bathroom near the Rector's office to a unisex facility.

When the upgrading plan is developed, Vestry approval to the conversion and upgrading and the financing thereof will be requested.

CHURCH ACCESS.

Looking beyond the wheelchair lift and bathroom projects, we need ideas on making the church level fully accessible from the street. We know technically this can be accomplished by a curving ramp from the Worthington Ave. sidewalk to the front door via the planter at the side of the front door. What we don't yet know is how to execute this in a broadly appealing manner. Avoiding an "institutional" look feels important.

Recognition that the ramp will be usable by mothers with infants in strollers opens up an intriguing possibility. We may be able to design the ramp and its surrounding landscaping in a way that sends a much-needed message that A&HT is a child-welcoming church.

We want ideas from the parish family on landscape design possibilities for the area on the north side of the church building, that will show we are child friendly. (Play areas cannot be considered because they will not be within Wyoming code). Please talk with any of the Task Force members about any ideas.

The ADA Task Force: Dick Bernard, Tom Bond, Jim Boude, John Fitzwater, Noel Horne, Chuck Kellner, Terry Kessler, Michael Meranda.

(Continued from page 3)

That said, we are entering into a period when we will have to rely less on money and more on local initiative. That's not entirely a bad thing. We've been talking in Southern Ohio about common ministry. What this means, in part, is that no one is exempt from ministry: this is an obligation we all share in common. So if we are confronted with an opportunity for ministry, we must respond, with or without budgetary back-up.

This has always been the backbone of the church: grassroots initiatives, largely unfunded, that have transformed the church's work in the world (e.g., the parish nurse program, the benefit bank, Ohio Interfaith Power and Light, the Union of Black Episcopalians). In the face of hardship, a new spirit is moving in our Church. We are tired of arguing and long to work together for good. And we are willing to take the initiative to support new and old ministries, whether or not they are funded by someone else. I feel this spirit at General Convention, and I have felt it at home in Southern Ohio, as we throw ourselves ever more whole-heartedly into neighborhood work, sustainability work, and work with children at camp, without any expectation that others will pick up the bill.

The good news is that, when we venture forth in God's name to do new things, the money will come, or at least the moral support that keeps us going will come. Mission is the key to our survival and flourishing as a church. May God give us grace to think more about mission and stop worrying about survival.

For more on the General Convention go to the Diocesan Web-site <www.diosohio.org> and click on the General Convention Logo or type in the address below to be taken directly to the General Convention page.

<http://www.diosohio.org/What%20we%20do/general-convention.html>



On another note, please know that Bishop Mark Hollingsworth and other intrepid members of the Diocese of Ohio have begun bicycling across the country to the Church Center in New York City to raise money for Episcopal Relief and Development. (You can find out more about this, including the route through Ohio, at <http://www.marketwire.com/press-release/Episcopal-Relief-and-Development-1018135.html>) Please keep them in your prayers as they make this three-week, night-and-day journey.

Parish Health Ministry

Blood Pressure Check - Sunday, August 9

After the 9.30 service in the Parish Health Room.

Please take a few minutes to take care of your health.



Community CPR-AED Class - Tuesday, August 18.

Wyoming EMS personnel will be presenting another CPR-AED class from 6-9 pm in the Emergency Services building on Grove Avenue.. The class will include adult, child and infant CPR and AED instruction. The minimum age for participation is 12 and teenagers are encouraged to attend. The cost is \$30 per person and prior registration is necessary. Parish Health Ministry will provide partial scholarships for teenagers from A&HT. Anyone interested in this class should contact Angela Horne via email at Anghorne@aol.com **before August 10.**

Note: There is an AED located in the main hallway above the chair lift in case of emergency in our building. To date about 25 members of our congregation are qualified to administer CPR and to use an AED. Won't YOU consider taking this opportunity to become qualified to save a life?

Note: If you are unable to make this class date, please email Anghorne@aol.com to indicate your interest in being notified of future class dates.

Card Ministry: Betsy Cooper sends cards each month to people who need a message of support or cheer or congratulation from their parish family. The cost is generously underwritten by ECW. If you or someone you know needs such a note, please contact Betsy at betsycooper@fuse.net or the church office.

The purpose of Parish Health Ministry is to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of parishioners. It follows the healing ministry of Jesus Christ by promoting wholeness of body, mind and spirit. Parish Health Teams consist of both medical professionals and lay persons. As we look towards our Fall program, we would welcome new members to our Team. Please contact Angela Horne at Anghorne@aol.com if you have questions or interest in joining this ministry.

Your A&HT Parish Health Team members are:

*Cheryl Brumbaugh, Betsy Cooper, Lynn Fitzwater, Angela Horne,
Kathy Kessler, Renee Kuyath and Deanna Womack*

Note of Thanks

Thanks to my A&HT friends for your many expressions of concern following my accident and during my recuperation. Your cards and letters and visits meant so much—they 'restored my soul'.

Ora

PHOTO DIRECTORY

Make-Up Date

August 18th 2009

Appointments starting at 3pm

Sign-up Sheet in the Narthex or call George Harperink, 851-8296



Save the Date:

September 13th 2009

Party for Top

After the 10 o'clock Service

ECSF OFFERS GRANTSEEKERS' WORKSHOP AUGUST 8

If you are looking for grants for your community ministry, you're welcome to attend the annual grantseekers' workshop offered by the Episcopal Community Services Foundation. This year it will be held in Circleville, Ohio at St. Philip's Episcopal Church, 129 West Mound Street.

The workshop is free, with freewill offerings welcome to help cover cost of lunch. You can attend any or all of the sessions:

- 10am Keynote, a case study of the multi-track work of Circles of Hope in tackling causes of poverty in Troy (Allison DeHart and Sonia Holy-cross of Partners in Hope, presenters)
- 11am Funders' Panel: four experts describe how churches can research and make a strong case to funders from government, corporations, foundations, and the Episcopal Church.
- noon: lunch and a chance to network,
- 1-3pm: concurrent afternoon workshops: Choose Grantwriting Basics or How to Launch a Circles Program

You can register by going to the ECSF website, www.ECSFsouthernohio.org, and clicking on the "Register for Grantseekers' workshop" link at the top of the home page. The workshop is offered as a service: attending it is not required for churches to be eligible to apply. Community non-profits who partner with Episcopal churches may also attend, though the application must be submitted by a congregation of this diocese. ECSF's home page also includes a link to the grant application instructions.

ECSF grant proposals due Sept. 15:

Further information on the workshop and the application for funding are available in the Parish Office

BECAUSE WE CARE ~ COMMUNITY DINNERS

A&HT and St. Simon of Cyrene in Lincoln Heights continue our successful "Because We Care" Community Dinners.

Item request is **Hot-Dogs** for the next date,

Tuesday - August 11, dinner is served from 6-7:30pm.

(label "community dinner" and put in the church freezer).

Sheryl Felner

Search Team Right On Track!

Our mutual discernment has permitted us to process nearly eighty prospects and as of this publication, we are communicating with about a dozen well qualified candidates. Careful screening by telephone interviews, reference checks and face-to-face meetings, has allowed us to prepare a short list, from which the new rector of Ascension-Holy Trinity will be called.

*As the list is pared to three or four, on sight visits will be made, and the Diocese will be doing background studies. The final candidates will, of course, also want to visit our parish! It is essential that all of us, including the Search Team, remain **patient and prayerful**...a difficult accomplishment, as together we wend our way down this very exciting path to a new rector.*

Nancy McCue

...for the Search Team

VALLEY INTERFAITH FOOD AND CLOTHING CENTER

August Manna List:

Cereal	Crackers
Soup	Pasta Products
Toothpaste	Pork & Beans
Canned Fruit	Canned Spinach
Canned Peas	Shampoo
Canned mixed vegetables	
Large plastic shopping bags	

(like the ones you get from a department store)

Due to the outstanding success of the "Manna List", we thought we would provide you with a list of other clothing and house-

hold items that are always needed. Of course, donations of any kind are always appreciated, but the items listed below are always in short supply with a high demand:

Halloween costumes	
Sheets: double, queen and king size	
Towels	blankets
Fans	small appliances
	(crock pots, hot plates, toaster oven, etc)
pots & pans	dishes & silverware
LARGE size clothing articles	Jeans
coats/jackets	shoes
sweat pants	under garments
Diapers	feminine products

Many Blessings, Barbara Campbell
Director of Development, VIFCC

420 W. Wyoming Ave | 513-821-3233
Fax: 513-821-3236 | Cell: 513-238-5091

OUTREACH OUTLOOK.

Mission Trip News.

Summer is mission trip season. We have reports on two completed trips.

Julie Stegman and Maria Lang journeyed to the Dominican Republic for a week-long vacation bible school mission trip to La Redencion Episcopal Church in Barahona. They were part of the bible school team led by members of our partner church, All Saints, Hilton Head Island. Here's Julie's report on her experience:

This past June, I went on a mission trip to the Dominican Republic to help run a VBS. It was my second time going on this trip, so it was comforting to already know a lot of the people who were joining me there. Our team bible study that we held every night in Barahona went deeper than it had last year. The spiritual growth I've had since my last trip, the friendships already established with the others, and the want to know and learn more about God helped me really focus. Focus on being more open, honest and willing to share my relationship with God to the others and myself.

A little boy, named José, would arrive early to VBS everyday so he could shake my hand when I got out of the car and help me carry my things inside the church. Even at six years of age, he was serving God and others in his own way. There were 96 children who came to VBS though out the week and each one is an example of a servant of God in the way that they live and act.

Despite being sick for much of the trip, I was still able to help with the VBS, interact with the kids, and see God's love working in everybody's lives there. The last day in Barahona, Friday, was the worst for me in terms of health. I had to spend the morning and afternoon in bed so I'd be able to make it through the 4 hour ride to Santo Domingo. I'm sad and disappointed that I had to miss the final day of the VBS.

I'm so thankful that I was able to return to the Dominican Republic this year. It wouldn't have been possible without the support from the National & World Mission Commission of the Diocese, the parishioners of A&HT, and All Saints Church in Hilton Head. Thank you for a wonderful experience.

Sincerely,
Julie Stegman

A closer-to-home mission trip opportunity enabled a group of nine A&HT family members to spend the weekend of July 16-19 working in Paul Clever's organic vegetable gardens near Athens, Ohio. Rev. Top Borden, Bobbie Borden, Lindy Gamble, Noel Horne, Ariel and Huxley Miller, Dana and Dawn Thomas and Daphne Wantsala learned about the Good Earth Ministry which raises over 25,000 lbs of fresh vegetables for food pantries and soup kitchens in the Hocking Valley. The group reports on its experience as follows:

Blessed by clear skies and cool breezes, our mission team harvested 475 pounds of fresh greens, potatoes, onions, squash and beans in Athens this weekend, and learned some eye opening facts about food systems in the process. We worked in Paul Clever's garden along the banks of the Hocking River, and took a stroll with wheelbarrows to harvest more in gardens scattered through Athens where volunteers are donating their muscles and produce. We then delivered this food to the Athens Farmers' market booth of a merry old man who runs a non-profit distributing thousands of pounds of free, fresh food to pantries and soup kitchens across Southeast Ohio. Having accompanied Paul to milk his cow Kitty and pick up eggs left by a multicultural flock of hens, we enjoyed a sumptuous dinner of pork-sausage stuffed zucchini and fresh-made french fries, almost all of it made from food we harvested. It was incredible to learn the volume of food that can be grown from a 9 x 9 plot, as well as the work that goes into producing it.

Paul's farm is the home to three young Christians who are living in community, integrating their faith, worship, and knowledge shape the choices they make on what they consume and how they work. Their Good Earth Mission is part of a new reform movement in American Christianity which is as refreshing and challenging as the Franciscans in the 13th century. The key question: how can we bring everything we do in line with the Gospel mandate to love and honor all people and this earth? We learned that there is a lot in our power and you should hold us accountable to start practical discussions here! Noel, Top, Robert, Dawn, Dana, Daphne, Huxley, Ariel, and Lindy.

In August, our loose change offerings will support the Good Earth Ministry.

Nursing Scholarship in Liberia.

Rachel Fakoli, our sponsored nursing student in Liberia has completed her first semester at Cuttington University. A&HT is providing \$1,200 annually to fund two thirds of her college costs, with Rachel and her family raising the balance. Rachel sent us this letter via the Internet:

I greet you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

My thanks and appreciation to you for the financial support rendered my father, Rev. Laurence P. Fakoli through Rev. Abeoseh M. Flemister for my tuition for this semester of 2008/2009.

My name is Rachel J. Fakoli and I am attending the Cuttington University. I am studying to become a nurse. I am glad to inform you that I have successfully completed this semester. During my fun time I love to play kick ball and sing.

Please see attached the preliminary registration form for academic 2009/2010. I will send you my grade sheet upon receipt from the administration.

I thank you and members of the Outreach Mission Group for your financial assistance towards my university education.

May God's grace and peace be always with you.

Sincerely yours,

Rachel J. Fakoli.

Rachel subsequently sent us her grade sheet confirming satisfactory progress.

Noel Horne, Outreach Mission Group Chair

ANITA AND MICHAEL DOHN, MISSIONARIES IN HEALTH MINISTRIES

June 2009 Mission E-mail

Web-site: <http://dohnfamily.org> E-mail: DohnFamily@sams-usa.org

Anita and Michael Dohn are physicians serving as South American Missionary Society missionaries with La Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana at the diocesan Clínica Esperanza y Caridad. They live along the southern coast in San Pedro de Macorís in the Dominican Republic.

For more information, visit their website: <http://dohnfamily.org>

* * * * *

Something I hadn't heard before ...

I recently heard some new terminology. A public health nurse was visiting the Clinic. We were talking about the challenges that can accompany trying to motivate people to change and make healthier choices. She manages a clinic in Washington with a large African immigrant population, many of whom are arriving fairly directly from refugee camps. The new arrivals can be difficult if they have a "refugee camp mentality" (I'd never run into that terminology before!).

Regardless of how relatively good or deplorable the camp may have been, these people had to depend upon someone to take care of them and provide for their needs in some way. Taking care of and being responsible for yourself is evidently not an easy transition.

It is not that they are lazy or looking for a hand-out. Rather, they are so bereft of self-confidence and self-esteem that they no longer believe that they can take care of themselves.

In health promotion terms, this might be called 'self-efficacy' – the belief that one has the ability and skills to accomplish something. A large part of what we do here is to develop higher levels of self-efficacy ... for example, so that the volunteer health promoters feel that they have the skills to help the mothers that they visit to believe that they have the ability to improve their families' health status.

Jesus came to bring life and to bring it more abundantly. As far as I know, 'self-efficacy' does not appear anywhere in the original Greek New Testament texts. Never-the-less, self-efficacy is certainly part of that more abundant, redeemed life.

Of all the things we do here, the one I cherish the most is being a part of the projects, programs and processes that help people develop abilities and skills that result in higher levels of self-confidence and self-esteem. Whatever the causes, whatever the terminology, and whatever the reasons behind a sense of powerlessness, there is just too much "refugee camp mentality" in our world.

Keep praying, *Michael*