

Volume
02/09

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

February
2009



CONNECTIONS



FEBRUARY

Worship Schedule

On Sunday Holy Eucharist is celebrated at

8am & 10:00am in the Church

9:00am 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
Holy Eucharist 4pm in the Chapel at Evergreen.

Contact the church:

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

WWW.ASCENSIONHOLYTRINITY.COM

News from the Pews

February Birthdays



- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2. Gail Bason | 13. Evan McCauley, |
| 5. Brandon Criddle, | Cindy Stegman |
| Caitlin Murphy | 15. Brandon Cordes, |
| 7. H. George White III | Jonathan Finke, |
| 9. Galen Graham | Betty Bence, |
| 10. Jim McCue | 18. Ryan McCauley |
| 12. Jeanne Boss, | 19. Joseph Hopple |
| Jerry Salmen, | 20. Amy Gay |
| Kathryn Criddle, | 24. Mary Brandon Criddle, |
| Megan Fitzwater | Jonathan Hale, |
| | Carol Fey, |
| | Harrison Glover |



PRAYER CONCERNS ~



Family of Janice Accountius, LC Ben Adams, Lizzie Ahmed, David Allardyce, Tom Barlage, Bill Bassitt & Family, Elizabeth Bethels, Jane Bernard, Beverly & Don, Mike Bigelow, Paul Boening, Kay Bond, Mary Bowes, Philip Brandewie, Buffy, Dennis & Beth Carroll and family, Laura Chace, Sal & Terri Cirnigliaro, David, Mary Catherine Dykhouse, Lowell Fifer, Joseph Flannery, Ruth & Harry Flewelling, Rose Friendly, Rev. Debbie Gamble, Matthew Gillingham, Joel & Shirley Godbery, Morrie Green, The Hart Family, Katie Hall, Ken Hammell, Tim & Carol Harrigan, James Jackson, Murray Jansen, Jonathan, Vicki & Dan Jahns, Lorna Jordan, Laura Kling, Larie & Family, Ruth Maichle, Peck Merchant, Omie McCloud, Michael, Max Miller, Dana Mohr, Judy Morand, Stan Neumann, Alfred Ocampo, Donna Orr, Sandi Osner, Peggy, Peter Poggiali & Family, Jill Rauch, Joe & Jen Reisenberg, Terry Sadler, Sally Slocum, Mary Ann Searls & Family, Sarah Thompson, Janice Timko, Clayton Warman, Jeff Zimmerman.

If you have placed a name on the prayer list, please contact the office with an update on how that person is progressing; Still needs to be on the list? Condition Changed?

Dearly Beloved,

Years ago I read an article about the spirituality of the Russian people. The formative shaper of their culture, was winter. In most of this vast land people are indoors, most people together in a small spaces for up to seven months a year. It is dark outside for longer than it is here in Ohio, because it is further north, and there is little wealth. People live for the joys of good bread, hot tea, too much vodka (unfortunately) long conversations and gatherings. The other way that people survive was through reading and prayer.

Nine years ago when I moved to Ohio, from Atlanta, I had this fantasy that I would curl up by the fire and be like the Russians and become a lot more spiritual! Well this has not exactly happened but, it has encouraged me. I look forward to the total silence of winter. All the machines become quite. The Trains are ever quieter. The peace is pervasive. This is holy peace, if we allow ourselves time and place to see and take it inside of ourselves.

February 1, we will start a two month Adult education series called "The Winter of our Lives." It is about the ongoing process of growing old, everyone is getting old! I hope you will come no matter your age. In our culture we do not talk about getting old and dying. Denial is not healthy, death is certain for ourselves and everyone we know. The more we make peace with ourselves and our parents, children, and grandchildren the happier our lives will be. This is the paradox and gift of death. (See Page 6 for more information).

Nancy McCue has encouraged me to plan this time and helped me to think it through. I am very grateful to her for help and devotion to our church. She is in charge of funerals for our congregation and we are lucky for gifts of organization and compassion at the time of death.

See you in Church.

Lovepat



Ash Wednesday and Lent

THIS YEAR THE FIRST DAY OF LENT BEINGS OF FEBRUARY 25 AND THERE WILL BE TWO SERVICES ONE AT 10:00AM AND AT 7:30PM

PLEASE COME TO CHURCH ON ASH WEDNESDAY.

IT IS A GREAT EXPERIENCE, ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH.

PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR.

WHY DO WE COME TO CHURCH? TO FEEL GOOD? TO BE BETTER PEOPLE?

SO WE WON'T GO TO HELL? BECAUSE OF OUR CHILDREN?

THE PRIMARY REASON WE WORSHIP ON SUNDAY MORNING IS THAT IT PLEASURES GOD. IT IS TO THE GLORY OF GOD. IT IS NOT TO DO ANYTHING FOR US REALLY.

DO YOU HAVE AN HOUR OR TWO FOR GOD THIS WEEK?

HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO BE GRATEFUL TO GOD FOR?

– MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Ascension and Holy Trinity is hosting the Deanery Lenten Series in March.

The LENTEN DINNERS are ON TUESDAY NIGHT 6:30-8:30

More information to follow.

PARISH PROFILE PROGRESS.

Dear Lord, as we search for our next rector, we give thanks for our loving and caring congregation. Keep us focused on discerning what you are calling us to be and to do in your name. Let us not linger while we wait for a new leader. Help us discover the talents and spiritual fire alight in this congregation. Inspire us to put the gifts you have given us to practical use with creativity and enthusiasm. Lead us to know the joy of life devoted to your service. And, finally, we ask that you bless our efforts to create a growing church that is vibrant, enriching the lives of our church family and making a bigger difference in the community. AMEN.

In our search for a new rector, we are near the end of the beginning. The text of the Parish Profile has been reviewed with the Vestry and the Diocese and is now firm. As of mid-January, we are finalizing the layout of the illustrated format with A&HT member and graphic designer John Kuyath. Then it will be time to contract with the printer. We expect copies of the finished Parish Profile will be available for rector candidates and church members in February.

We thank all the many members of A&HT who have contributed their thoughts, time and photos to the development of this important document. And we look forward to handing over to the Vestry-appointed Calling Committee very shortly.

The Parish Profile Committee:

Laura Bence (Co-Chair), Karin Fetterman, Noel Horne (Co-Chair),
Ariel Miller and Glenn Schaaf (Vestry Liaison).

ECW MEETING

Wednesday, February 25 at 12:00. Come, bring a sandwich, we will have dessert and drinks. We need to decide on future plans. See you there. Barbara





MUSIC NOTES

Since February has been designated as Black History Month in the past several years, it gives us a wonderful opportunity to explore the negro spiritual repertoire. This rich and varied catalog of soulful music has inspired countless generations of worshipers around the globe and is recognized, like jazz, as an authentic American genre. I hope you will enjoy hearing a few favorites.

To explain a brief disappearance, I will be away two Sundays in February. I return to the First United Methodist Church of Port Huron, Michigan, for a Valentine's Day Concert on the 14th and will be at the First UMC of Ann Arbor the following Sunday for the premiere of a newly commissioned anthem, "In This House," which you may expect to hear at A&HT later this spring. Dr. Robert Benson will be sitting in for me.

We welcome Guy Belew to the bass section of the choir. Guy has an early history as chorister in Episcopal choir circles and also plays a pretty hot piano! Thanks to Guy for stepping up!

Kelly Hale, Director of Music

DISABILITY ACCESS AT A&HT.

The ADA Task Force continues to focus on the #1 priority access project—to install a wheelchair lift for the 3 steps up from the church hallway, replacing the mechanical chair now in place. Proposals from at least four suppliers are in progress. They encompass different technical solutions and a wide range of prices (\$15,000 to \$23,000). In February, the Task Force expects to conclude which is the preferred solution and to make a recommendation to the Vestry.

Proceeding with this project is dependent on the securing of funding from sources outside the church budget. To receive donations, a Disability Access Fund has been established. Very encouragingly, inside-A&HT contributions and pledges totaling \$12,000 have been received to launch the Fund. Contributions are very welcome. They should be designated "Disability Access Fund". Ideas about potential outside funding sources or about fundraising activities will also be welcome.

Ideas and questions may be directed to any of the ADA Task Force members:

Tom Bond, Jim Boude, John Fitzwater, Noel Horne, Chuck Kellner,
Terry Kessler, Michael Meranda.



THE WINTER OF OUR LIVES:

QUESTIONS, SHARING, AND DECISIONS:

Why do we die, Moving out of our homes, wills, dying and death.

FEBRUARY 1—Why do we have to talk about this?

And Where is God any way? ~ Pat Merchant

FEBRUARY 8—Let's talk to each other ...

I beg all generations with living parents and/or adult children to come to this session; For instance....

I am 45 years old (35, 25, 60) my parents are young and healthy, we don't need to talk about their dying, it's gruesome, and embarrassing. Besides, it might mean I/we have think about it occasionally

I am 65 (75, 80... etc. in good health and my kids don't need to have to worry about me (us.) Were still the parents. It ruins a good dinner party.

FEBRUARY 15—Wills, Power of Attorney, Medical rights to refuse further treatment, and more. Come with your questions to ask our local domestic relations lawyer ~ Jay Thomas Melott, Esq.

FEBRUARY 22—Maple Knoll Retirement Community ~ Ms. Janice Hare.

MARCH 1—When do I leave my home? ~ Senior Solutions, Director- Peggy Slade-Sowder , Episcopal Retirement Communities

MARCH 15—Evergreen

MARCH 22—What about your funeral?

What to do with funeral arrangements with the church before and at the time of death ~ Nancy McCue

MARCH 29—Funeral Directors, what they will provide and cost. ~ David Danner, Schaefer- Busby Funeral Home, 24 W. 9th. Street, Cincinnati.

I have known David for over nine years. He is one of the most caring and honest funeral directors I have ever met. Come and ask him all your questions.

"Because We Care Community Dinners"

are a combined effort of A&HT and St. Simon of Cyrene in Lincoln Heights, to feed people hungry for food and fellowship. To date we have fed approximately 220 people and made new friends. Volunteers are always welcome in any capacity, even posting one flyer, coming 1/2 hour early or staying 1/2 hour late, or baking a batch of cookies. Please check the bulletin board in the hall for more information.

The upcoming dates are 6-7:30pm Tuesday:

February 10 @ A&HT

March 10 @ St. Simon

April 14 @ A&HT

May 12 @ St. Simon



Dear Parish Family,

Thank you so much for your Christmas present of Bucks to Lou and me.

Love Lou and Pat

Annual Meeting Results

A successful meeting of the parish was held Sunday January 25th. A wonderful lunch was coordinated by many ladies and a fantastic soup created that caused the staff to salivate all week in anticipation!

Your Vestry for the coming 12 months are:

Senior Warden—Huxley Miller

Junior Warden—Glenn Schaaf

Class of 2012

Gail Bason, Betsy Cooper, Karen Fetterman

Class of 2011

Guy Belew, George Harperink, Kim Wissemann

Class of 2010

Leanne Anderson, Carol Gómez, Matt Madison

OUTREACH OUTLOOK.

"Because We Care" Free Dinners.

The January 13 dinner at St. Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights was a success despite inclement weather. Meals were served to 60 people at the church and additional meals were taken to a nearby home for senior citizens.

The next dinner is on February 10 at Ascension & Holy Trinity. Volunteers are needed to prepare food, to serve and to clean up. Importantly volunteers are also needed to get the word out to those who could benefit from this free meal. To volunteer, please contact Sheryl Felner (948-1578). To learn more about this ministry, please check the bulletin board at church.

Mission Trip Possibilities.

An element of the A&HT Outreach Strategy is to support and enable members of our church family of all ages to take advantage of mission trip opportunities. For 2009 there is a veritable menu of mission trip possibilities open to us, if there is sufficient interest in participating, as follows.

1. A one-week Vacation Bible School at La Redencion Church in Barahona, Dominican Republic, in partnership with All Saints, Hilton Head Island. This mission trip, a repeat of the successful 2008 experience, is open to high-schoolers and older youth and to adults. Youth scholarships will be available. The trip is expected to be scheduled in late June.
All Saints and La Redencion are considering combining the VBS trip with a construction trip, pushing to complete the new school. So for those who are more interested in physical labor than teaching, this is your opportunity.
2. A one-week mission discovery trip to the Dominican Republic, culminating in the dedication of the new La Redencion church building. Likely timing is March 30 to April 6.
3. A nearer-to-home summer mission trip like the 2006 trip to Martin's Ferry, Ohio or the 2007 trip to Athens, Ohio. Probably 3 nights away from home and timing to be determined by those interested in participating. Open to all ages, subject to the really young having reliable adult supervision.
1. An at-home summer mission trip, exploring work and learning opportunities in the greater Cincinnati area, with probably one shut-in sleepover at A&HT. Again timing will be determined by those interested and the experience will be open to all ages, subject to reliable adult supervision.

Anyone with an interest in or curiosity about any of these opportunities is invited to meet after church on Sunday February 15 in the assembly room. We will provide information and exchange ideas. If you have an interest but are unable to attend the February 15 meeting, please contact Noel Horne: e-mail Anghorne@aol.com or phone (843-671-3549 until early March, 513-729-2173 thereafter).

Academy of Multilingual Immersion Studies.

One of our local outreach ministries is in support of church members who teach or tutor at AMIS in Roselawn, working with English-as-a-second-language children in this Cincinnati Public School. If you have an interest in volunteering at AMIS, please contact Dee Damico (772-0065). If you'd just like to provide financial support, give generously of your loose change--our loose change collections in January and February will support the AMIS after-school soccer program.

*Noel Horne,
Chair, Outreach Mission Group.*

PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING ~ FEBRUARY 1 ~ AFTER BOTH SERVICES ~ in the Parish Health Ministry Room. We welcome and encourage all parishioners to have regular blood pressure checks. It can be life saving. It's free, its quick, and its 100% good for you!

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LENDING PROGRAM (MELP) ~ WE ARE RESTARTING THIS PROGRAM. For several years we collected and stored medical equipment like wheel chairs, crutches, shower stools etc.and lent these items to parishioners who needed them for a short while. We now need to restock our supplies and would appreciate any donations of the above or other such useful items, so that we can once again be of service to our parishioners. Please contact Angela Horne via email (Anghorne@aol.com) if you can help with this.

CPR/AED CLASS ~ The Wyoming Life Squad will be holding another class at the end of February/early March (date TBD). If you have interest at all in taking this very worthwhile 3 hour class, please contact Angela Horne.

REFRESH YOUR SOUL CONFERENCE MARCH 7 ~ CROWNE PLAZA, BLUE ASH. These conferences are sponsored and subsidized annually by ERH. This year's conference theme is Staying Afloat ~ Preserving the Capacity to Care. It is designed for all caregivers and anyone interested in learning practical strategies for ministering to the needs of caregivers. Keynote speakers are Jane Meier Hamilton MSM, RN and The Rev Dcn. Joanna Seibert, MD. Brochures with registration forms are available at church or on line at www.episcopalretirement.com.

OPEN INVITATION ~ anyone who is interested in holistic health and would like to join the Parish Health Ministry Team is most welcome ~ just speak to any team member. They are Cheryl Brumbaugh, Betsy Cooper, Lynn Fitzwater, Angela Horne, Kathy Kessler, Renée Kuyath, Deanna Womack.

Dear Parish family:

Thank you for your prayers and support since September and our son, Philip's accident and subsequent neurosurgery. We would like to share our "Miracle" with you, and let those of you that do not know, his recovery is such that he has begun his Freshman year at Ohio State as of January 5th!

Without you and God our journey would have been impossible!

With love, The Brandewie Family, John, Christina, Alicia & Philip



VALLEY INTERFAITH FOOD AND CLOTHING CENTER

We have a few special needs for February:

Blankets, blankets, blankets warm socks

Large size sweat pants Canned fruit

Meat, such as hot dogs, lunch meat, frozen chicken, etc.

Thank you so much for your effort in helping us fulfill our mission. You are truly amazing.

Many Blessings, Barbara Campbell

Director of Development, Valley Interfaith Food & Clothing Center

420 W. Wyoming Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215

513-821-3233 | Fax: 513-821-3236 | Cell: 513-238-5091

A&HT WINS ECSF GRANT FOR VALLEY INTERFAITH FOOD AND CLOTHING CENTER:

Thanks to an excellent proposal written by Karin Fetterman, A&HT will receive a grant of \$2,000 this year for VIFCC. Karin applied because Valley is experiencing a relentless increase in the number of people seeking aid. The generous support of A&HT members and a steadily growing number of other contributors across the diocese has equipped the ECSF board to award grants totaling \$137,730 and are going to 44 different ministries across the diocese this year. This is almost 15% more than last year - at a time when funds are desperately needed to overcome expanding unemployment, hunger, homelessness, and the needs of low-income children and workers to develop the skills and hope to build a secure livelihood. The Episcopal Community Services Foundation is an independent charity of the diocese with the mission of equipping the saints of Southern Ohio through grants and free consulting to Episcopal congregations working to overcome human need in their communities. Visit our website to learn more about what we do: www.ecsfsouthernohio.org

"Christmas on the River"

Thank you to all who participated in the "Christmas on the River" project sponsored by Christ Church Cathedral and the Seamens Church. A&HT knitters made 54 scarves for mariners; A&HT bakers contributed 35 dozen homemade cookies. We all celebrated in December at a luncheon at the home of Barbara Witte. Please note the thank you we received from Priscilla Dunn, the Cathedral's coordinator of the Christmas on the River project

From: "Priscilla and Malcolm Dunn" Date: Wed Jan 14, 2009 10:33:30 AM US/Eastern
To: "Russell / Noni Smith" <eventide36@earthlink.net> Subject: Thank you for package

Dear Noni- Thought you might like this note and pic. Your contribution to COR was terrific. Your scarves were the largest Cincy contribution and the cookies significant. Hope you all will want to participate next year.

Please thank all who participated and let them know that we do receive notes like this one and "toots" now and then to let us know the crew's appreciation.
Happy New Year, Priscilla

Dear Rev. James A. Diamond
From the crew of M/V Sarah L. Ingram

We would like to thank you and everyone from the Christ Church Cathedral for the package of gifts we received. The Christmas cards from the kids were very heart warming.

Mathew 22:37&38 come to mind. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Thank you for reaching out to your neighbor.

May God bless your Church and the Seamen's Church.

I am sending you a picture of our vessel. We run up & down the Ohio River & pass Cincinnati all the time.

CAPT. PETE - M/V SLI - 270-933-0904





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

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