

CONNECTIONS



The Kentucky Derby

- a great excuse for a Party!!
Everyone is invited to
the Run for the Roses
Party 4:30^{PM}
Saturday, May 2nd
at the Rectory



Please bring finger food to share or a bottle of wine, sprite, coca cola, or a beer or mint juleps.



Ladies hats are encouraged, the more outrageous the better! Please know something about the horse you are betting on, as the stakes are high.

Child care will be available at the church by the fabulous Stegman team of angels... from 4:30 - 8:30 when the party is OVER as everyone has to be at church the next day!!



News from the Pews

May Birthdays

1. Erin Campbell
5. Karen Salmen
7. Jennifer Kessler,
Paul Boenning
8. Jim Rembold,
Caitlyn Fey,
Ryann Layne Boss
9. Becky Bond,
Jesse Brumbaugh
10. Tom Barton
11. Kathi Ackerman
13. Carrie Esposito,
Casey Cooper,
Reily Lauren Boss
14. Natalie Madison
17. Noah Roeseler
18. Nancy McCue,
Sheryl Bringman
20. Bo Graham
22. Sam Voige,
Elizabeth Zoller,
Tom Purdy,
25. Lynne Kellner,
Laurie Barton
27. Eric Spore,
Ryder Boss
28. Jordan Spore
30. Judy Cordes,



Anniversaries

3. Tom and Patsy Davis
11. Cliff and Jenny Moore
13. Tony and Debbie Esposito
15. Michael and Kim Cooper
18. Kevin & Catherine Ochterski
26. Julie & David Wakefield

PRAYER CONCERNS:

LC Ben Adams, Lizzie Ahmad, John Alen, David Allardyce, Tom Barlage, Bill Bassitt & Family, Jane Bernard, Elizabeth Bethels, Beverly & Don, Edna Black, Paul Boenning, Kay Bond, Fran & Laura, Jim Boude, Buffy, Dennis & Beth Carroll and family, Laura Chace, Sal & Terri Ciriigliaro, Nancy Clauter; David, Mary Catherine Dykhouse, Morris & Mary Louise Evers, Lowell Fifer, Joseph Flannery, Ruth & Harry Flewelling, Rev. Debbie Gamble, Matthew Gillingham, Joel & Shirley Godbery, Morrie Green, The Hart Family, Katie Hall, Ken Hammell, Tim Harrigan, Tom Hitchcock, The Huff Family, James Jackson, Murray Jansen, Jonathan, Vicki & Dan Jahns, Larie & Family, Lorna Jordan, Terry Kessler, Liz King-Hager, Ruth Maichle, Mary Markson, Peck Merchant, Omie McCloud, Michael, Ora Miesse, Max Miller, Dana Mohr, Judy Morand, Stan Neumann, Sandi Osner, Peggy, Peter Poggiali & Family, Joe & Jen Reisenberg, Mary Ann Searls & Family, Nancy Schroeder, Cathy Skiba, Sally Slocum, Bert Straus, Jeannette Thiemann, 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?

From the Registers:

Baptisms:

Sydney Claire Oliver April 26th 09—Daughter of Ryan and Catherine Oliver;
Granddaughter of Brandon & Judith Cordes, Great Granddaughter of Marjorie Walmsley

Confirmations:

Harrison Woods Belew, Caroline Kathryn Ely, Caroline Lamoreau Felner, Harrison Loach Glover, James Irvine Graham, Amelia Louise Irvine, Lauren Elizabeth Kent, Robert John Kuyath, George Henry Rembold Moore, Dana L. Thomas.

Dearl Beloved,

There has been and will continue to be a lot of grief in our parish over The Rev. Deacon Top Borden, no longer serving at the Altar and soon no longer serving as our pastor. She and her family, Bobby, Cheryl, Dawn and Dana, we are hoping will remain with us as worshipping members of our community. Top has served this congregation for the last fifteen years. Many times she has been the glue that has held the spiritual and pastoral fiber of this Church together. She is loved and revered by many people. Saying good-bye to her in this role is very painful.

Endings and beginnings are always very difficult. A friend of mine once said the reason we have lots of parties before a wedding is to distract ourselves, from the gravity of the decision to marry. We resist change, this is human nature. It is often painful and at the very least uncomfortable. Graduations, mean that our children have succeeded in school, but it also means that they will most likely leave home and move on to their own separate lives.

Growing up in a military family, I always knew that we would have to move, and I always dreaded the day my Father would announce the move. When I was in third grade we were living in Petersburg, VA. I was nine years old and my best friend's name was Emily Bucker. We were inseparable. My father announced that he was going to Greenland and that we would go to Ireland to live with my Grandparents. I announced that I was not moving. The moving truck arrived and I spent the night with Emily. Emily's parent's came upstairs to tell me it was time to leave but they could not find me. My Dad came to their house and had to drag me out from under Emily's bed. It was one of the two times in my life I saw him cry.

Ever since that childhood event I have known the cost of any sort of saying good-bye. Whether that be for a week-end or at a funeral. Life is so short.

Lovepat



CALLING ALL GRADUATES -

Please call the office with information about graduation. Let us know where you will be graduating from (high school/college and it's name) and your future plans if you know them at this time. Please also send Sarah a picture so we can include that in the June issue of Connections. We want to honor our successes.

THANKS - THANKS

ECW thanks all the women who arranged and served the reception honoring the confirmans and their guests, the baptized child and guests, and also the lovely visit by our Bishop Price.

Also the Parish Health Ministry thanks ECW for supporting their mission of sending a cheering card to those who would enjoy a note.

ECW UPDATE - From Barbara Nellis

Many, many thanks to the Bason women who took Pat's suggestion at the Annual Meeting. They have added many live plants to our church areas and also redecorated (paint, chairs, table, lamps, and rug) the Worthington Ave. entrance. This is just the beginning. Now they need more volunteers to paint the Parish Hall. All these changes give us a more energetic feeling and welcome to our new priest.

Some things have been moved. The VIFFC collection box is in the coat room. Also there is a highchair there to borrow when you have small guests visiting your home. The Ronald McDonald house (box) to collect tabs is in the Narthex.

Nancy McCue and I have completely cleaned and rearranged the pantry. The doors are labeled. Karin Fetterman and Barbara Witte have moved the china in the kitchen to make room for the new under-the-counter dishwasher. Please read and follow the directions for its use. John Fitzwater and Terry Kessler have installed the dishwasher. All these additions and changes were done and paid for thanks to ECW. Take time to look around and see what's happening.



MUSIC NOTES

Many of you are aware that my daughter, Rebecca, is on a major early-life experience living in Russia for seven months this year. She won a grant when she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa at graduation time from UC last spring that has allowed her to pursue her love of studying Russian, while teaching English at a language school in St. Petersburg, reportedly the most beautiful city in the country. She has had many challenges adjusting to that very different culture and has articulated many of them on her blog site: <http://torussiawithlove.wordpress.com/>.

I am going to visit her on May 1st, my first (and probably only) trip to Russia. There was never any particular reason for me to visit there before, but now there is! It looks like I will have to take my winter coat, but that's a small price to pay in order to see my daughter. While I'm away, worship continues with music as usual under the capable fingers of Bob Benson and Dave Adams and the glorious voices of our choir.

Kelly Hale, Director of Music

PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY

Thank you to everyone who came to enjoy the Parish Health Fair on April 19. There was plenty of good camaraderie and lots of interesting information to be tried and learned. People of all ages had fun, especially the littlest ones who loved brushing teeth with a giant toothbrush.

Your Parish Health Team wishes you a safe and healthy Spring.

Rummage...Rummage...Rummage...

We raised \$3165.05 which, given the economy is ok.

That is about 25% lower than we have been making.

Thanks everyone who pitched in. Particular thanks go to Debbie Esposito, MaryJo Everhart, Carolyn Guesteland, Brenda Meranda, Nancy McCue, Judi Mohr and Barbara Witte who were there EVERY Tuesday.

OUTREACH OUTLOOK.

Vacation Bible School Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic...

Emily and Julie Stegman and Maria Lang will leave on Saturday June 20 for a one-week mission trip to La Redencion Episcopal Church, Barahona, Dominican Republic. In partnership with folks from All Saints Episcopal Church, Hilton Head Island, they will be building on last year's very successful trip to La Redencion when they led Spanish-speaking bible school classes in the under-construction church. This year they will find a newly completed, consecrated church and an under-construction church school. The school is being readied for start of classes in September, construction funds permitting.

La Redencion is a new and growing Episcopal congregation and is successfully following a proven "business model" in the Diocese of the DR. The vacation bible school attracts children who then draw in their parents. Once the congregation is reasonably established, adding a church school generates more congregational growth. Emily, Julie and Maria are playing an important role in generating this growth. They will be working with up to a hundred very active children. Out partner church, All Saints, HHI is a generous contributor to construction funds for La Redencion and will be sending three older adults as part of the vacation bible school team. Emily, Julie and Maria provide a younger element of the team, very valuable in attracting and engaging the children of Barahona.

As we did with the 2008 DR mission trip. We will again be providing financial support for our mission trippers. The cost of the one-week experience will be about \$1500 per person. Our loose-change offerings in April, May and June will support this cause. Emily, Julie and Maria are planning another fund-raising Parents Night Out (watch for details). Donations in support of the mission trip will be very welcome--tax deductible checks should be made out to Church of Ascension & Holy Trinity and designated "DR mission trip support"

Because We Care Dinners...

Participation at the April 14 dinner at A&HT was encouraging in that "marketing" efforts reached out to new participants-in-need in Hartwell and Lockland. The next dinner is on Tuesday May 12 at St. Simon's, Lincoln Heights. Volunteers for food preparation and serving are needed--please contact Sheryl Felner.

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Academy of Multilingual Immersion Studies...

We continue to support needy immigrant children at AMIS. Maria Lang, ESL Coordinator at the school expresses her appreciation:

"I would like to thank the Church of Ascension & Holy Trinity for the generous donation of \$300. This money will be used to support the AMIS Soccer Program. Your generosity has allowed our students to play two seasons at Soccer City. All the students are English Language Learners and most of them recently arrived in this country. I would again like to express our sincere gratitude for all you have done for the AMIS children and staff"

Noel Horne. Outreach Mission Group Chair.

VALLEY INTERFAITH FOOD AND CLOTHING CENTER

Please keep the Crock pots, electric skillets, hot plates, etc. coming in. I know our clients really appreciate it.

Your dedication to our mission of helping our neighbors in need is so appreciated. Month after month, we are amazed at how everyone pulls together to help us stop hunger in our surrounding neighborhoods. Donations of any kind are always appreciated, however this month, we are in need of the following items:

- Canned meats (tuna, chicken, salmon, etc.)
- Canned fruit
- Rice products
- Pork n Beans
- Crackers
- Toothpaste & toothbrushes
- Shampoo
- Deodorant

We are looking for walkers/runners for the Annual Hunger Walk. It is being held on Memorial Day, May 25, 2009. If you are interested in helping us, you can get more information at www.freestorefoodbank.org.

Thank you so much for your effort in helping us fulfill our mission of "Helping our Neighbors in Need". You are truly amazing.

Many Blessings,
Barbara Campbell, Valley Interfaith Food & Clothing Center
420 W. Wyoming Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215
513-821-3233 | Fax: 513-821-3236 | Cell: 513-238-5091

Anita and Michael Dohn, Missionaries in Health Ministries

February 2009 E-letter [No. 55]

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 Macoris in the Dominican Republic. For more information, visit their website.

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Ricardo died last weekend. He had AIDS, but multiple gunshot wounds during a police shoot-out killed him.

A drug user and convicted of multiple murders, Ricardo was paroled when he was diagnosed with HIV infection (I am told that AIDS patients get paroled because the correctional system doesn't have the money to treat them).

A while ago, there was a "carta blanca" issued for him, sort of the equivalent of the American wild west "Wanted: Dead or Alive" poster. In the end he took a woman hostage and used her as a shield against the police. The shoot-out took about two hours. The woman was rescued. Though obviously terrorized, she was otherwise unharmed and no one else was hurt (there were kids playing in the street when the shooting started).

Ricardo came to his medical appointments when he thought it was safe. He always got good service. The nurse made sure that he was seen promptly and efficiently because she did not want a shoot-out at the Clinic. I suppose that this end to his story was predictable. He had not exactly mended his ways since his prison discharge. I cared for a minor gunshot wound not long ago. However, he was pleasant when we saw him, always treated us fairly and politely. He was our patient; we had a relationship with him – perhaps one of the more productive and respectful relationships in his life. He was certainly a bad man, even a "scary man," but life is rarely that simple.

Jesus seemed to have dealt with a lot of people who saw things as black or white. Jesus seemed to have a more nuanced vision of the law. Jesus certainly recognized sin, but he also asked who among us could justifiably cast the first stone.

I hope and pray that the promise in Romans (8:38) that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus applies to Ricardo.

Keep praying, Anita

P.S. – As it happens, our "Water: Part 1" video shows the street where the shoot-out occurred (the slow pan across an intersection about one minute into the video). There is a link to it from the "Pictures and Videos" page at our website (<http://dohnfamily.org>). We know a lot of people in that neighborhood and a few Clinic employees live at that intersection and nearby.

STATUS: RECTOR SEARCH

This week saw the delivery of forty matches between our profile and the profiles filed by clergy on the national Episcopal Church Deployment Office (CDO) website. This adds to the twenty or so referrals resulting from a recent CDO conference and the handful of suggestions from our own parishioners. Letters have been sent to all of these prospective candidates, requesting more detailed information about experience, skills and aspirations.

The Search/Calling Team continues to meet weekly to coordinate the process and to prepare for the upcoming telephone interviews. The development of questions that will help us clearly to identify those candidates who can, and who likely will, help our parish achieve its goals, is a key focus of the Search/Calling Team at this stage.

We are looking forward to getting together with Pat in the near future to discuss and understand better the kinds of questions that the candidates themselves are likely to pose, and how these might be most effectively answered by the members of the Search/Calling Team.

Faithfully, *Maurice*

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