

Volume  
11/08

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

November  
2008



# CONNECTIONS



# NOVEMBER

## 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](mailto:aht@eos.net)

**[WWW.ASCENSIONHOLYTRINITY.COM](http://WWW.ASCENSIONHOLYTRINITY.COM)**

# News from the Pews

## November Birthdays



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Debbie Esposito,<br>Jacob Stegman                   | 13. Bob Allan                              |
| 3. Jack Cox  | 14. Cleve Callison                         |
| 4. Robin Hendley                                       | 15. Emily Bence                            |
| 5. Christa Criddle,<br>Jane Bernard,<br>Harrison Belew | 16. Ron Bence                              |
| 10. Jim Neumeister,<br>Dana Irvine                     | 18. Dorothy Honerlaw                       |
| 11. Megan Neumeister,<br>Dorothy Poggiali              | 19. Rich Gómez,<br>Guy Belew, Sr.          |
| 12. John Kuyath,<br>Kelly Hancock                      | 20. Ross Gillingham                        |
|  | 21. Mary Margaret Criddle,<br>Ariel Miller |
|  | 22. Andy Gómez                             |
|  | 26. George Thiemann                        |
|  | 28. Ben Hopple                             |



## November Anniversaries



- |                             |                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 11. Tom and Karin Fetterman | 30. David and Mary Allardyce |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|

## PRAYER CONCERNS ~

PFC Ben Adams, David & Mary Allardyce, Bill Bassitt & Family, Buffy, Jane Bernard, Beverly & Don, Mike Bigelow, Paul Boenning, Rev. Peggy Bosmyer, Kay Bond, Dennis & Beth Carroll and family, Laura Chase, Sal & Terri Cirnigliaro, David, Capt. Max Donaldson, Mary Catherine Dykhouse, Joseph Flannery, Patrick Flannery, Ruth & Harry Flewelling, Joel & Shirley Godbery, Jeannie Grady, Morrie Green, The Hart Family, Katie Hall, Ken Hammell, James Jackson, Jonathan, Lorna Jordan, Laura Kling, Ruth Maichle, Vi & Peck Merchant, Omie McCloud, Michael, Max Miller, Dana Mohr, Judy Morand, Stan Neumann, Donna Orr, Sandi Osner, Peggy, Peter Poggiali & Family, Jill Rauch, Joe & Jen Reisenberg, Fanella Smith, Sarah Thompson, Clayton Warman.




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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?

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# Dearly Beloved,

Money, Money, Money, Money, Money, show me the Money!!! Do I have your attention?? Holy Bananas between the stock market and the election we are all wreck's thinking about our future. There has never been a time in my life when I get less sure by the day, about what the future will bring. Will I have to work until I die? Will I have a pension? What about my daughter and grandchildren?

On the other hand I really am not that worried. I am out of control. I will have to meet each day as it comes and between now and then I am grateful for all the wealth I have now. I am warm, able to buy delicious food, clothes, gasoline, books, newspapers, the internet and live in a beautiful place with wonderful, warm, smart, funny people.

Gratitude for me is not a natural way of being. I have had to learned to be grateful. To teach myself. Envy rises quickly inside of me. Things that I have wanted desperately and have gotten lose their appeal quickly. Cars, clothes, and jewelry especially.

Jesus talked a lot about money. He talked about wealth, poverty, work, wages, and the sharing of money. In Matthew he says what I believe is at the center of our spiritual life, where your treasure is, there your heart is also. That is tough but true.

Next year is an important year. The future depends on the faith and the gratitude of now.

*Lovepat*

# NOTES ON THE PRIESTHOOD.... CONTINUED

## COMMUNICATION

You would think this would be easy. The pulpit is the priest's, the newsletter, the announcements, the dinner guest, the many public forums. No. The first problem is that many clergy believe that they must live in the strict confines of a particular role, that requires they never share any of their personal life. To a point this is very appropriate as the opposite, sharing all your problems with parish and constantly using the congregation to take care of you is totally inappropriate. Clergy, vestry, and congregations need to learn to share healthy information about each other at meetings and gatherings that provide the glue that creates community and caring. Often this includes humor, sharing stories of our children, pets, daily life. Often we are tempted to not take the time to listen to each other and this dismisses the importance of community. It is important that if the priest and or his or her family is ill that this be communicated and not hidden from the congregation.

The priest needs to be as clear as possible in defining his or her leadership gifts, where accountability will be between the clergy and lay leadership. Parish Ministry cannot be done by one person. The Vestry and Priest delegate the roles and in the healthiest of places the priest does the work best suited to him. I remember in Seminary in the about 1974, the Rector of St. Paul's in Alexandria, was a beloved priest, named John. What I remember was the way everyone spoke about him. He was a deeply loved and respected man. I asked, is he a good preacher? Well no, others would say, but he is the best pastor we have ever known. Wow, I thought to myself.

When I was at the beach last week one day there were six children under 6 for dinner and 6 adults and three dogs. It was very loud and chaotic. It was fun! The next morning early when I went out to the ocean the silence was a gift of order and beauty. Silence may be a gift or a punishment in relationships. Often in churches it is withdrawal and leaving one wondering where someone has gone and why? As a priest I begin to worry two or three weeks after someone disappears from church. Should I call them? What did I do wrong? Do I want to hear them tell me what I did wrong? If you are angry at the clergy tell them, if you can't do that write them a note or an e mail. I know that I make mistakes and often I am unaware that I have made them. Chaotic joy and laughter often are the balm of silence or vice versa.

The same is true if you have a friend in church who is angry or frustrated with the Priest or another parishioner – try to be a reconciler. Get a direct conversation going between the two people. Triage kills congregations.

Anytime in any relationship if there is a misunderstanding the best recourse is the get a good night sleep and to ask the other person for a time to talk about what happened. This is not only an opportunity to clear the air, but almost always a moment when the relationship becomes more real and deeper.

## **PARISH PROFILE PROGRESS**

The Parish Profile Committee continues to focus on the five essential questions: Who We Are, What We Do, Where We Have Been, Where We Want To Go and What Do We Want From A New Rector. Here is a progress report on each of these questions;

### **Who We Are.**

After two rounds of questionnaires seeking, first, adjectives describing Who We Are and, second, confirmation of the proposed identity adjectives, our strengths are:

- |                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Loving and caring.      | 6. Faith based.       |
| 2. Friendly and welcoming. | 7. Supportive.        |
| 3. Generous.               | 8. Sociable.          |
| 4. Educated and talented.  | 9. Outreach oriented. |
| 5. Family oriented.        | 10. Capable.          |

And we have weaknesses because we are:

- Experiencing morale problems.
- In conflict.
- In need of leadership.
- Challenged by our small size and aging membership.
- Change resistant.
- Needing stronger bonds.

### **What We Do.**

We have asked the leaders of thirty A&HT ministries to describe what we do in the ministry areas they lead. Compilation of their responses is underway. We have asked Rev. Pat to describe our liturgy in terms that will be very clear to rector candidates. These inputs will be the basis for describing our present activities.

### **Where We Have Been.**

Input from the September 28 History Day will be an integral part of Where We Have Been.

### **Where We Want To Go.**

We judge this to be the most important part of our work and, consequently, we are drawing input from a wide range of sources. First, we asked for adjectives that describe the personal visions of the A&HT congregation desired in the future. Evaluation of the input to this request is not yet com-



## Music Notes

The first Sunday in November we will celebrate All Saints with music from the Fauré REQUIEM, one of the most beautiful of all classical requia. It was composed in segments over a period of several years and first performed at the Church of the Madeleine in Paris, that great, classical Greek revival temple, for the funeral of...an architect! It has become one of the most beloved works of the choral repertoire and has transcended its Roman Catholic roots to be embraced by many different denominations. The beauty and sincerity of the music is unmistakable, thus it receives many concert performances every year. A thoughtful liturgical sequence has been developed to make sure that our morning service will not be overly extended. Please come and hear this beautiful work in the context of worship as it was originally intended.

As many of you know, I have just recently returned from a European trip with my daughter, celebrating our emancipation from the University of Cincinnati: mine through retirement and hers through graduation with a B.A. in English with High Honors, Magna cum Laude. I loved spending time with her and seeing many of my favorite cities again through her eyes as well as my own. I loved being in Europe and being surrounded by so many languages and cultural traditions. If anything, I was again reminded that though we are all different in these fascinating traditions, we are very much alike, in that we all want to live in a peaceful world and enjoy life.

Many monuments, sacred and secular, bear witness to the struggles of so many who shaped the world in which we now live. It revived my understanding of history as a living process, not just as a description of the past. We at A&HT are creating our own history as we seek to reinvent ourselves and not only survive, but resurrect the Christian ideal of being a vibrant community. Our worship together is our most powerful opportunity to achieve this and music is one of the most active aspects of that experience. I was glad to be back on the bench and hear you sing praises; I encourage you to keep it up! Fill your lungs with air and let out the sound of your voice as though you expect and want God to know you care. Make an impression!

The Advent Carol Service is coming on December 14th at 5:00 p.m. Please put the event on your calendar and bring your friends. This is our musical Christmas card to the greater community and a great way to experience/explain the concept of Advent to folks from other traditions.

Kelly Hale, Director of Music

*(Continued from page 5)*

plete, but the responses very clearly tell us we want to be a much more alive, vibrant, energetic congregation and we want to grow.

Second we've asked the leaders of the thirty ministries to tell us their aspirations for the future of their ministries.

Third, the Appreciative Inquiry interviews on October 12 and 19 will provide insights on individual hopes and dreams for our future.

We've scheduled a review of all this input with the Vestry on November 3 and expect shortly thereafter to publish a Where We Want To Go summary for congregational comment.

### **What Do We Want From A New Rector?**

It's important that we have a consensus on Where We Want To Go before we set about defining expectations for our new rector. We expect to solicit congregational input on rector expectations once our desired future is defined. Meanwhile we have started the ball rolling on the rector expectations with our children and youth. The 6 to 12 year olds in the Catechesis classes have provided really valuable insights for us.

November will be a very active month in Parish Profile development as we finalize our responses to the five essential questions, draft the fact-based material and start work on profile layout. We plan to keep the congregation informed and involved through e-mail and worship sheet inserts.

Your Parish Profile Committee,  
 Laura Bence (Co-Chair), Cheryl Borden-Thomas, Karin Fetterman,  
 Noel Horne (Co-Chair), Ariel Miller and Glenn Schaaf (Vestry Liaison).

## **IT'S UNITED THANK OFFERING TIME!**

This year our fall ingathering (a fancy word for final collection) will be November 23rd. Please pick up a recycled blue box at the back of the Church and drop in change as you remember all of your blessings.

**Our Daily Thanks** – “God of abundance, how can we thank you enough for all you share with us? As we practice our giving, enlarge our hearts, that our hands and feet may follow to do your work. In all that we do, may we give thanks, sharing your gifts with all in need.” Amen *(Milicent Eason)*



Questions? Call Sheryl Felner – 948-1578.

## *"The Knit Before Christmas"*

### ATTENTION: KNITTERS AND BAKERS OF A&HT:

This year your knitting ministry is participating in "Christmas on the River"; a program of the Seamen's Church Institute and sponsored this year along the Ohio River in Cincinnati by Christ Church Cathedral.

Christmas on the River provides a small gift, hand knit scarf, and home baked cookies for the ten man crew on 50 towboats who work on the inland waterways, typically 28-30 days at a time, regardless of holidays or family crisis. This means that 500 individual items in each category need to be supplied by members of congregations in the greater Cincinnati Area. The Dean of the Cathedral includes a Christmas message and meditation.

OUR GOAL at A&HT is to KNIT 50 SCARVES and BAKE 25 DOZEN COOKIES! (we have 30 scarves so far.....) We welcome all knitters and bakers. Please see knitting and baking instructions below.

We will gather to bless our finished products at a gathering on Friday December 12th. PLEASE SAVE THE DATE (time and place to be determined). Please let me know if you will knit or bake. Thank you!

Noni Smith  
(761-6413 or  
eventide36@earthlink.net



## COOKIES:

All cookies should be homemade as these are gifts of the hands and heart to those who are not able to leave their towboats during the holidays. SUGGESTED cookies are Chocolate Chip, Oatmeal, Molasses, Peanut Butter or other drop cookies. Rice Krispie Treats may also be included. No cut out cookies can be accepted as they break and do not pack well. Please DO NOT use PEANUT OIL in baking any cookies. Use the cross hatch pattern on Peanut Butter cookies so that they are easily recognizable. BAKE all cookies slightly under done to keep fresh and from crumbling. PACK cookies, 6 to a QUART Ziploc bag.

## MARINER'S SCARF KNITTING INSTRUCTIONS:

Material: ("male" colors suggested!)

4-ply (acrylic) yarn - 4.5 oz. makes one scarf

Needles: Pair #6

wool needle for joining yarn and finishing garment

Gauge: 5sts=1 inch, 7 rows= 1" garter stitch

Directions:

Cast on 32 stitches with medium tension

Knit even (garter stitch) for 14 inches

K4, P4 for 18 inches

Knit even (garter stitch) for 14 inches

Bind off with medium tension

Note: measurement of completed scarf is approximately 6 .5 inches wide, 46.0 inches long. DO NOT BLOCK SCARF

(Printed directions and knitted scarves in the A&HT library)

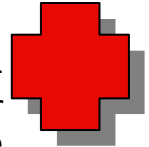
# PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY

Our revitalized ministry is off to a good start. Blood Pressure Screening and Flu Shot Clinic events in October were well patronized and we pray for a healthy winter season for all. The next Blood Pressure Screening will be **December 7**.



This month we will be introducing a new program sponsored by ERH entitled Backdoor Reading - Keep looking behind some of the church doors for information on this one!

## CPR/AED Training Class - Date to be determined



As you know, we have an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) which is now located in the main hallway above the chair lift. Currently we have several members of the parish who are able to perform adult and/or child CPR should an emergency arise. In order to be better prepared for emergencies, we are offering an opportunity to anyone interested in taking a CPR with AED training class. The class would be conducted by Wyoming Life Squad personnel at the Emergency Services building on Grove Avenue. Cost is \$30 per person (we may be able to offer some financial assistance). Class time is one evening 6.00 - 9.30pm. Class size is 10 - 15 persons. Please contact Angela Horne: Anghorne@aol.com if you wish to have a place in the class. More information and the date will follow in a parish wide email.

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## MEREDITH GLOVER WILL ONCE AGAIN BE A PART OF THE CAST AS THE CINCINNATI BALLET PRESENT THE NUTCRACKER THIS DECEMBER.



As Friends and Family of Meredith you can enjoy 20% off ticket prices. The 20% is good for ALL performances; Not just the ones that Meredith is in. But here is her schedule:

Dec 13 7:30	Dec 20 2:00
Dec 14 2:00	Dec 23 2:00
Dec 18 7:30	Dec 26 7:30
Dec 19 7:30	

To order tickets through the mail: Pick up form at church and mail in.

Order tickets online: [www.cincinnatiaballet.com](http://www.cincinnatiaballet.com) Click on "Tickets and Merchandise"  
 Click on "Promotions" Enter Code: **GRP0809NUTKIDS**  
 Click on performance choice Enter # of Tickets Click on "Add to Cart"

To order tickets on the phone: Call 562-1114 When ordering tickets, say: **"you would like the friend and families discount because of Meredith Glover."**

To order through email: [thonebrink@cincinnatiaballet.com](mailto:thonebrink@cincinnatiaballet.com)  
 Include ticket preferences and the promotion code **GRP0809NUTKIDS**

# OUTREACH OUTLOOK...

Included in Parish Profile input for the future of A&HT are several suggestions that we should seek opportunities to increase our outreach activity and visibility in our immediate geographic area. Thanks to Rev. Pat's inspiration, we will be able to take an important first step in this direction in November. We have started a "Because We Care" partnership with St. Simon of Cyrene, Lincoln Heights, to serve free dinners once a month, alternatively at St. Simon's and at A&HT. The first dinner at A&HT will be on Tuesday November 18 from 6 to 8pm. Volunteers are needed for this exciting new venture--please contact Sheryl Felner (948-1578) or sign up at church.

As a reminder, the other local outreach ministries A&HT supports are always in need of volunteers. Looking for an outreach mission? Then here's who you call:

Kim Wissemann (761-8659)

for Valley Food & Clothing Center in Lockland.

Top Borden 771-7553)

for Health Care Connection in Lincoln Heights.

Dee Damico (772-0065)

for Academy of Multilingual Immersion Studies in Roselawn.

Ariel Miller (221-0547)

for Interfaith Hospitality Network in Glendale.

If you are concerned about other local needs not being met and can see a potential role for A&HT Outreach, please let me know.

Noel Horne,  
Chair, Outreach Mission Group



## 1st Sunday Vestry Coffee

~ 9:00am ~ November 2nd ~

Following the 8am service—Meet in the Assembly Room, Every first Sunday between the services, there is the vestry coffee, an opportunity for the parish to brainstorm and discuss issues with the vestry. Any concerns are welcome.

## VALLEY INTERFAITH FOOD & CLOTHING CENTER

It is that time of year again and we are gearing up for the 2008 Christmas program. This will be the last year for Michelle Childs as our Christmas Coordinator, she has been such a blessing to VIFCC and has done such an awesome job for the last several years. She will truly be missed! If you or anyone you know would be willing to take on this task, please contact her at [mdchilds@cinci.rr.com](mailto:mdchilds@cinci.rr.com). It would be wonderful if the person interested in this position worked with her this year, making next year an easy transition.

Listed below is the Manna List for November. We are so thankful for the generous donations you provide and your dedication to our cause. Month after month, we are amazed at how everyone pulls together to help us stop hunger in our surrounding neighborhoods. As always, we welcome any donation, but we need the following to stock our shelves and offer nutritious choices for our clients. Besides the items listed below, we are always in the need of paper grocery bags, various personal hygiene items, diapers (all sizes), manual can openers, towels and linens for larger size beds, fall shoes for children and men, and of course, as always financial donations. We also need Stuffing Mix, Instant Potatoes and Cranberry Sauce for the 350 food baskets we provide for our Christmas program. Spring Valley Bank is once again partnering with us this year with their annual "Fill the Sleigh" food drive.

**-Canned fruit**

**-Gravy mix**

Thank you so much for your effort in helping us fulfill our mission.

### **Sleigh bells are starting to ring !!**

A&HT's contributions to this year's Christmas Program for VIFCC will be focused in three areas. Like in year's past, we will be asking for donations of new clothing for children. We will have the sharing tree set up after the 8 and 10am services hopefully starting the second Sunday in November. Two other ways to give this year will be food and donations towards \$15 Target gift cards. The gift cards will be given to teens in their Christmas basket. The food selections will be canned sweet potatoes and canned cranberries.

Ways to participate in this year's VIFCC Sharing Tree!!:

- 1) Clothing Gifts – 50 children
- 2) Donations for \$15 Target gift cards
- 3) Food – canned sweet potatoes, canned cranberry sauce



You can choose to contribute however you wish. We will be setting up the Sharing Tree with tags for all three items in mid November. I want to thank you for your generous participation in the past and hope that you will also be willing to contribute this year. *Thank you, Kim Wissemann, A&HT Coordinator.*

*Anita and Michael Dohn are physicians serving as missionaries with  
La Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana  
through the South American Missionary Society.  
They live along the southern coast  
in San Pedro de Macoris in the Dominican Republic.  
E-mail: < DohnFamily@sams-usa.org >*

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I was recently in the USA at a worship service. Among other things, the lay leader prayed for those who suffer the stigma, discrimination, and rejection accompanying HIV/AIDS. My mind wandered (I don't seem to be any better at concentrating on what's happening in the service than when I was ten, but that is a different story) to an episode several weeks ago at the Clinic.

A patient generated some strong feelings on the part of some Clinic personnel, some serious fears, and some reluctance to take care of him when he came for treatment. He did not have HIV/AIDS. The Clinic has an active HIV/AIDS treatment unit. Most everyone is now comfortable with that condition. He had leprosy. After a bit of an initial delay (and some quick reassurances to those concerned), the man with leprosy was folded back into the usual care system at the Clinic.

In some ways, our work has not moved all that far beyond how things were "in Biblical times." Leprosy here still incites concern and may produce its share of prejudice and rejection. Tuberculosis (the 19th-century's "White Plague") also provokes similar reactions at times. The "stigma, discrimination, and rejection" associated with medical conditions have an historical reach stretching well beyond HIV/AIDS.

It is actually helpful for us from a spiritual standpoint to have so many Biblical elements within our daily circumstances here (leprosy, people going daily to the well for water, donkeys in the streets, ...). It gives us a context for our faith and thinking about the Bible that we did not have while living in Cincinnati. Maybe not a better context, but at least a different one.

I got my mind back into the service before the end of it. One problem with my mind wandering is that I nearly always end-up with more to pray about: the stigma, discrimination, and rejection accompanying HIV/AIDS... and tuberculosis and leprosy. So, please ...

Keep Praying, *Michael*