

July-August 2013

#### Dear Friends,

This is our summer newsletter. It covers the two months when the parish schedule slows down a bit. There are still activities and meetings, but the potential for pleasant excursions and other forms of leisure looms large -- and we are programmed to feel that way. Whether or not it has any relevance to our lives today, we never quite get over the pattern ingrained by all those school years when the end of June signaled vacation – or at least a change in the normal schedule.

When I have occasion to speak with people about Holy Communion, I like to share a standard explanation of one of the benefits of coming often to the Lord's Table. The hope is that if we can learn to see Jesus present in the bread and wine at Communion, we might more readily learn to see Jesus elsewhere. In a similar way, summer can serve as a kind of template to help us more realistically structure the rest of the year. Adding time for rest and recreation in the summer may help us achieve more of a balance when the tempo picks up again. Too many people are continually rushing to catch up, barely staying afloat as they wrestle with overloaded calendars.

Certainly, each of us was created to do the best we can with the life God has given us. We are meant to perfect our gifts and talents and share them, for the greater good. But ideally, life is more than a series of appointments and obligations. When we read about Jesus in the Gospels, he is often shown camping, mountain-climbing, boating, or fishing – a veritable summer catalogue of activities. But even Jesus needed time for personal renewal.

Let these summer months be enjoyable in every possible way, and let this time be helpful in providing a more balanced approach to life that can carry over to the rest of the year. Please remember that our worship is always an important form of renewal - a balm to the Spirit. Come to pray, come to take a deep breath, come to enjoy fellowship - 9 o'clock Sunday morning.

Alleluia!

Jane+

#### RENOVATION & RENEWAL FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thanks to a generous bequest from the Estate of **Charlotte Baker**, the Sunday School area on the Lower Level of the Parish House will be upgraded this summer. Work will cover ceilings in all classrooms, flooring in classrooms and hallway, closet doors, painting, and new furniture, among other things. Brainstorming began in the late fall when we first learned of the bequest, and the final plan is the result of many meetings and conversations – with special thanks to **Glen Robertson**, **Lauren DiSarno and Joe Triola**.

The work is scheduled to take place this summer so that when Sunday School resumes in the fall, everything will be bright and beautiful. Except for the Pre-K/Kindergarten Class, all classes meet downstairs. When the work is completed, the area will be dedicated to Charlotte Baker who served for many years as Sunday School Director. We are very grateful to Charlotte and Vernon Baker for their generosity toward this parish.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS' MEETING, AUGUST 14

Planning for the 2013-2014 Sunday School term will take place Wednesday, August 14 at 7 pm. **Glen and Kelly Robertson,** Directors, look forward to another year with the Spark Curriculum. Teachers and substitutes are urged to attend -- and explore the newly renovated space.

## CAN YOU HELP MOW? CAN YOU HELP WEED?

**Mowing** -- With all the rain, the lawns need to be mowed a lot. Please sign up. The mower is working and gas is on hand. We are very grateful to parishioners who volunteer their time. And to make this appealing for our young people, we are prepared to pay them \$25. Information is available.

**Weeding** – The areas bordering the parking lot and in front of the church are weedy. If you have a little time to spare, please come and pull weeds. Bring your own gardening tools. We'll supply the plastic bags – and the lemonade.

## WORSHIP LEADERS COMMISSIONED

Our Diocese has changed the title of Lay Reader to Worship Leader, so we have followed. Three parishioners, **Anne Goetz, Joanna Hurley and Kevin Walsh,** were commissioned as Worship Leader, Lay Eucharistic Minister and Lay Eucharistic Visitor, joining our fine roster. They received licenses signed by Bishop Councell, and Celtic cross pendants. **John Burk,** Director, and the Rector commissioned them.

# **SUMMER IS UPON US!**

## **JULY 7 – SEPTEMBER 1**

#### ONE SERVICE ON SUNDAY

#### HOLY EUCHARIST AT 9 AM

There are Acolytes and Worship Leaders, Ushers and Oblation Bearers. There is organ music and/or piano to accompany the hymns. Our choristers are scattered throughout the congregation which is lovely in its own way. Worship with us!

# THE WEDNESDAY SERVICE OF HOLY EUCHARIST CONTINUES, EXCEPT ON AUGUST 21 AND 28.

## **SUMMER COFFEE HOUR**

Fellowship remains a vital part of church life, and we are fortunate to have a lively well-attended Coffee Hour. Let's keep it up over the summer. Make it simple, indoor/outdoor. Please sign up.

# **RESTAURANT ADVENTURE, AUGUST 4**

They're fun at any time, and especially in the summer. We're planning a Restaurant Adventure for Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup> – location to be announced. If you have a favorite spot to suggest, we're open to ideas -- ideally, a place that is attractive, reasonable, and serves good food. The restaurant should also be open on Sundays and take reservations. Doesn't something on the water sound appealing? In any case, call the office if you can help.

# BILLS, BILLS!

This is a plea to keep paying your pledge over the summer. Vacations and weekends away are a lovely part of this season, but the bills keep coming and the church budget covers the whole year. Also, if you have not made a financial pledge for 2013, we encourage you to do that – pledge for half the year. Pledge cards are available in the narthex, and that way, you will get a box of pledge envelopes.

# --YOUTH NEWS—

# SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2013-2014

Registration will take place September 8 and September 15 during Coffee Hour.

#### Classes will begin September 22.

(This is a week later than usual, because public schools open a week later this September.)

The list of graduates in last month's newsletter inadvertently omitted a parishioner. Congratulations to **Anthony Dada**, finishing at Park Middle School and going on to Scotch Plains Fanwood High School.

This summer, **Jonathon Dawson** will be working at Swirl Whirl in Westfield and preparing for his college auditions. He plans to major in vocal performance.

**Daniel Dawson** will play the role of William Barfee' in the Scotch Plains Recreation Department Summer S. T. A. R. S. production of "Putnam County Spelling Bee." Performances will be August 9, 10 & 11 at 6 pm on the Village Green. (It's free!)

**Nathaniel Harris** was given an Academic Award for Excellence in Mathematics at Park Middle School's "Recognition of Learning" ceremony.

# **SANDY RECOVERY MISSION TRIP, AUGUST 25-30**

Our Diocese invites youth, grades 9-12 to help with Sandy Recovery. The Mission Trip begins Sunday, August 25 at 4 pm and ends Friday, August 30 at 11 am. The cost is \$300.

Participants will learn about the challenges facing local residents and community agencies by working to help home owners, pack food, or support general cleanup efforts. They will meet and work with residents and community organizers in supporting the ongoing recovery and long-term renewal work. Missioners will be housed at Ocean Grove Retreat Center in Ocean Grove, and will work, play and pray with diverse youth from parishes in New Jersey and New York.

For more information, contact The Rev. Canon Debi Clarke at (609) 394-5281, ext. 36, or dclarke@new jersey.anglican.org.

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# -- Parishioner Profile --

# THE WONDERFUL MAGIC OF DISNEY WORLD THROUGH A GRANDMOTHER'S EYES

#### By Susie Roeser

In June of 2013, my daughter and husband, Courtney and Michael Rovito, would celebrate their tenth wedding anniversary. Along with their daughters, Sophia, Isabella and Fiona, they decided to enjoy a vacation in Disney World, Orlando, and they invited me to join them, along with our cousins, Leslie and Erica Thompson. My last visit to Disney World, with *my* children, was thirty years ago, and the changes since then were astonishing.

Our van to Newark Airport picked us up at 3:00 am on Sunday morning, June 9<sup>th</sup>, and we arrived in Orlando early enough to enjoy a fun-packed day. First-time flyers Sophia, Isabella and Fiona, loved the airplane.

I stayed in the breathtaking Wilderness Lodge, and the Rovito family stayed in the beautiful Port Orleans Resort Area where they were able to travel by boat to many Kingdom attractions. With advice from friends, Courtney booked five nights of dinner reservations in January. We had beautiful, sunny and hot weather each day, with temperatures hovering around 90 degrees.

The Sunday we arrived we traveled to Downtown Disney for shopping and dinner at the T-Rex Café which was filled with dinosaurs and had a wonderful light show.

Monday morning brought us to the Magic Kingdom, and magic it still is! My granddaughters' eyes lit up like a Christmas tree. They went on ride after ride, and the day culminated with a dinner at the Royal Table in Cinderella's Castle. The girls wore their princess gowns and had special hair styles courtesy of their mom. There was a photo session with Cinderella, and then dinner with five other princesses, including Snow White. Many photos were taken and autographs collected in their albums. As a plus, the meal was delicious!

Tuesday brought us to Animal Kingdom. The line for the Safari Adventure was long but worth the wait. We traveled in open-air Jeeps and saw giraffes, elephants, lions, hippos, rhinos and even a wart hog. I was pleased to see that all of the animals were well cared for. That night, we enjoyed a wonderful meal at Teppan Edo in the Japanese Pavilion in Epcot Center, where our meal was prepared on a table in front of us. Sophia, Isabella and Fiona mastered eating with chopsticks. I did not.

On Wednesday, we traveled to Hollywood Studios – a newer attraction. We saw a 3-D Muppet movie – my first adventure wearing 3-D glasses. Then we went on an amazing "Toy Story" ride which also required 3-D glasses. We enjoyed a wonderful lunch at the 50's Prime Time Café,

which brought me back to my childhood. My granddaughters could not believe the small television set I used to watch – and certainly nothing in color! That night, the Rovito Family ate at the Sci-Fi Dine-in Theatre, and my cousins and I enjoyed a glamorous dinner at the Hollywood Brown Derby.

Alas, it was time for me to leave for home, but the Rovito family enjoyed two more wondrous days in the Magic Kingdom, including rides in the new Fantasyland section. The girls especially loved "The Little Mermaid" adventure where they rode in clam shells. They ended their stay with dinner at the Coral Reef Restaurant surrounded by hundreds of sea creatures swimming in tanks

As mementos for their girls, Courtney and Mike ordered hand- made glass slippers, each with their birthstone. The slippers should arrive in late July, and hopefully, they will continue to bring back visions of a magical time.

A truly wonderful, memorable trip to celebrate an anniversary and to celebrate family!

By Susie Roeser

#### GRACE'S KITCHEN IN AUGUST

Grace's Kitchen in Plainfield operates the last five days of each month (not including Sundays), supplying lunch to people who need assistance. All Saints' volunteers serve at the soup kitchen on the last Thursday of each month, but sometimes that day is not one of the last five – which is the case in July. We are on the schedule for August, so please come and help if you can – Thursday, August 29, from 10 am to 1 pm. Speak to **Charlie Beakes** for information.

#### **BOWLING WAS FUN**

More than twenty from All Saints' had a fun afternoon (June 23) at Strike & Spare on Route 22 in Green Brook – although many bowlers got neither strikes nor spares. Still, there was good spirit, lots of laughter, a little pizza. Congratulations to the champion bowler, **Brenda Jackson**. The event raised about \$700 for the Curtis Jackson Memorial Scholarship Fund.

# -- The All Saints' Family -

This past June, **Mariana Caldwell** and **Peggy Tristram** were made Honorary Members of the Musical Club of Westfield, at the annual Scholarship Luncheon held at Shackamaxon Country Club. "Honorary Members are elected for life and shall be exempt from all duties and fees." Mariana Caldwell has been a member of the Musical Club for 61 years, having given her first violin performance there in 1952. Peggy Tristram, a member for more than 50 years, has sung at programs and played cello. Congratulations!

**Thurston Hamlette** graduated *cum laude* from Howard University Law School in Washington, finishing 10<sup>th</sup> in a class of 338. He had an article published in the *Howard Law Journal*. He will soon take the New York Bar Exam.

**Deborah Albert** graduated from Long Island University, C. W. Post Campus, with a degree in Early Childhood Education which qualifies her to teach children ages six months to second grade. She currently assists at a Daycare Center on Long Island. **Gilianne** (**Gigi**) **Jawahir** graduated from Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts, earning a BA degree. She majored in Neuroscience and hopes to go on to graduate school in public health. This summer, she will be an Assistant Teacher at a summer camp in Harlem. **Elizabeth** (**Liz**) **Peach** graduated from the College of New Jersey with a BA in Psychology and a minor in Women's and Gender Studies. She did an Internship at the Middlesex County Jail. She will work toward a Master's in Education Counseling at TCNJ, and wants to be a middle school guidance counselor.

**Sharon Burk** completed her second year at American University in Washington. This summer she will be Procurement Intern for the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

**Robert Dawson** continues at CBS News Radio in Washington -- an associate editor during the week, on air Sunday mornings with sports updates. Hear him at <a href="http://washington.cbslocal.com/">http://washington.cbslocal.com/</a>. He's on 99.1 at 25 and 55 minutes past the hour; or 106.7 WFAN on the hour and half hour.

**Jerry Dawson**, who teaches doing the school year, is working this summer as Beach Director at Shongun Lake in Morris County.

**Mary O'Connor**, will be in a production of Gilbert & Sullivan's "Pirates of Penzance" at Dunellen Senior Center in Columbia Park (August 16, 17, 18 & 23, 24, 25).

**Marlenes Luvins**, from our Choir directs two vocal groups at an Elizabeth Middle School – "Terence C. Reilly Musical Notes Mixed Middle School Chorus" and "Terence C. Reilly Girls Chorus." On June 7<sup>th</sup>, both won first places at the "Music in the Parks" competition at Dorney Park, PA. Both earned "Superior" ratings (more than 90 points). In addition, the Girls Chorus won the "Overall Performance Award," which earned them three trophies!

# **Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Lamp**

We invite you to keep fresh Flowers on the altar with a memorial or thanksgiving. The cost is \$40.00. Keep the **Sanctuary Lamp** burning for a week to remember loved ones or offer thanksgiving. The lamp is \$10.00. **Make checks payable to the Altar Guild** and put in the **memo** line that the check is for flowers or the lamp. Sign up in the narthex, or call the office.

**Available Dates** 

**Altar Flowers**: July 7, 14, 21, 28 August 4, 18, 25 **Sanctuary Lamp**: July 28 August 4, 11, 18, 25

# **Missionary Outreach**

The second Sunday of each month is Sharing Sunday when we ask for donations to help local families through Heart for Humanity.

**July** – Non-perishable snacks: Juice boxes, raisins, granola bars, crackers, fruit snacks **August** – School Supplies

**September** – Baby/Toddler items: disposable diapers, ointments, powder, wipes, nail clipplers, shampoo and other related items

Please keep our Food Basket filled every Sunday with non-perishable items. This is also a way to help local families through Heart for Humanity.

The Rev. Jane Rockman, Rector

Andrew Kilkenny, Organist and Choirmaster The Rev. John R. Neilson, *Rector Emeritus* Irene Carlucci, *Secretary* Wesley Jenkins, *Sexton* 

Wardens

Jenine Williams Richard Johnson

#### Vestry

Charlie Beakes Todd Bouverot Lauren DiSarno Chris Harris Clark Landale Patricia Ludewig Glen Robertson Michelle Smith-Crona Sally Robinson Liz Trimpin Kevin Walsh Susan Winkler

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