



the CATHEDRAL MESSENGER

The monthly parish newsletter of The Cathedral Church of St. Stephen, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Vol. 11, No. 5

May 2005

On Front Street

In one of the most well known, widely embraced, and amusing of all Zen koans, we are both reminded and taught:

"It is too clear and so it is hard to see.

A dunce once searched for fire with a lighted lantern.

Had he known what fire was,

*He could have cooked his rice much sooner."*¹

How often, in the midst of our faith journey and search for answers, do you and I and communities of all shapes and sizes search 'outside' and 'beyond' ourselves, when, so often, the answer to our cares and concerns lies within – literally, to extrapolate from the age-old Eastern text, in our very hands. Perhaps more frequently than we care to admit or wish to acknowledge, all of us either search actively or wait anxiously for someone else, some "white knight", some person or persons from another place, to provide our redemption and release. Over the years and under duress, I myself have clearly fallen into the camp of those for whom some 'outside' source of fiscal, institutional, ethical or political resolution would have been very preferable to the hard work, deep soul-searching, sacrificial giving and honest truth-telling which I had carefully sought to avoid. But, in the end, and indeed always, Christ himself would not let me do that and he does not do so now.

The central call of the Gospel, repeated many times over from the shores of Galilee to the temples of Jerusalem, is to let go of self, ego, individualism, and a misguided sense of personal centrality, all for the betterment and ultimate welfare of the larger whole. The handing over of self is much easier said than done, yet this is precisely what Christ asks of his devotees, of those who shall literally "...follow me, and I will make you fish for people." [Mark 1:17]. In the analogous story from Luke's Gospel, Jesus responds to the evident trepidation of those who hear this radical call with words which are yet more timeless: "*Do not be afraid.*" [Matthew 5:10b].

In all the world and in all our lives, in all that we do while embarked upon this earthly sojourn, there is nothing more difficult or painful than to give up, hand over, sacrifice and set aside that which is closely held and dearly cherished, all so that something larger, bigger, greater, wider, more profound, of sheer endurance, truly transforming and utterly life-changing can thus emerge. The Body of Christ, of which we are each beloved and complex component parts, necessitates and invites such self-sacrifice on behalf of the larger mission of the Gospel. No two of us shall approach that inner threshold in the same way or at the same time. No two of us will discover within the identical obstacle to our true and permanent "letting go." No two of us will ever precisely be able to name that exact time, that specific moment, that very instance when the great and transcendent gift of the Gospel became so clear and shimmering that such self-sacrifice actually became simple and swift.

Now the tomb is empty, now the disciples are stirred, now "the green blade riseth", now the Holy Spirit imparts tongues of fire and kindles hearts of zeal. At this stage of the great Easter and Pentecost drama, God's part is largely done. To you and to me and to us now falls the wondrous, imperfect yet always life-giving task of making this celestial promise real, alive, enduring and sweet, not only in this generation, but far beyond.

In peace and faith,

The Very Rev. Mark H. Hatch
Interim Dean

WEEKLY LITURGIES AT THE CATHEDRAL

Sunday:	Holy Eucharist, Rite II – said service	8:00 a.m.
Sunday:	Holy Eucharist Rite II, with Music	10:15 a.m.
Wednesday:	Holy Eucharist, Rite II	7:00 a.m.
Thursday:	Holy Eucharist, Rite II	12:10 p.m.

1 *Zen Flesh, Zen Bones*. p. 176. c1994. Shambala Press, Boston/London.

News and Events

Highlights of the Vestry Meeting on April 21, 2005

The following is a summary of the key items addressed during the Vestry meeting held on April 21, 2005. A copy of the minutes of this meeting will be posted on the Cloister Bulletin Board following their approval at the May Vestry meeting.

1. With much gratitude for the support of Bishop Creighton, the Vestry approved formal acceptance of the Heistand Fund loan from the Diocese in the amount of \$150,000, payable over a twenty-year term. For the first ten years of the loan, no interest will be charged and no payments will be due. For the balance of the term, simple interest in the amount of five (5%) percent on the unpaid balance of the loan will be due and owing to the Diocese, but no payment of the loan amount will be due until the end of the twenty-year term. Following a discussion regarding where these monies might be most efficaciously applied, given the Cathedral's financial challenges the Vestry voted 10-2 to set aside a portion of the loan sufficient to create a 3-month emergency operating reserve in the Cathedral's savings, and to apply the balance of approximately \$110,000 of the loan funds to the outstanding mortgage with Fulton Bank.

2. Following a thorough discussion of the options available to the Cathedral with respect to the Bigler House property and the costs associated with each option, said options having been received and reviewed publicly and openly at many levels during the previous 7 months, the Vestry voted unanimously, with 1 abstention, to offer that property for sale to any member of the Cathedral at fair market value for a period of thirty (30) days, beginning on the date of publication of this edition of the Messenger. Any member who may have an interest in making such a purchase should contact the Interim Dean or the Wardens. The property is located at 223 North Front Street, immediately adjacent to the Chapter House where the Cathedral offices are located. Tours of the property are available. In the event one or more members of the Cathedral are interested in buying the property, a mutually acceptable method to have the property appraised and bids submitted will be determined. Any written offers that the Cathedral receives will be reviewed by the Vestry at its meeting on May 19th.

3. Based on a written proposal from Anne J. Yellott and The Rev. Canon William Murphey for a gift-giving event centered around Pentecost, the "birthday" of the Church, the Vestry voted 7-5 in favor of Anne and Bill proceeding with their idea to raise additional funds to supplement the operating budget for 2005,

to be dedicated (as an explicitly stated tenet of their proposal) for the preservation of the Minister of Music and Canon Pastor positions until the end of 2005 or until the arrival of the new Dean, whichever comes first. The Cathedral is currently operating at a projected deficit of \$100,000. The goal of the gift-giving is to raise at least \$50,000 from members of the Cathedral, which will, in turn, be matched by a gift up to a maximum of \$50,000. A mailing will be sent to all members of the Cathedral in the very near future. A celebration of the gift-giving will be held on Pentecost, May 15, 2005, the termination of the 3-week undertaking.

4. Due to a lack of time, a discussion of the 2005 initiatives that the members of Vestry identified during their retreat on April 6, 2005, was deferred until the May meeting of the Vestry.

5. The Interim Dean announced that a Committee planning session will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2005 in the Uppercroft, beginning at 6:30 pm. All members of the Cathedral who currently serve on Committees or who would like to do so are encouraged to attend. This session will focus on developing Committee mission statements, rules for running meetings, communication and minute-taking expectations, and objectives and goals for Committees. We will also address the proposal to reorganize the Committees which was presented by the Interim Dean at the March meeting of the Vestry.

6. Effective April 1, 2005, Campbell's Cleaning Service has been hired to clean the Cathedral and the church offices.

Prayerfully submitted,
Mary Jane Forbes-Schmidt, Senior Warden
Ann Elliott, Junior Warden
Mark Hatch, Interim Dean

Remembering St. Stephen's in your Will

The Book of Common Prayer states that "*The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time, about the duty of Christian parents to make prudent provisions for the well-being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in good health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses.*" (BCP p445). As a recent newsletter reminded me, in words far better than I could pen, "There is no time like the present for making out a will. The best of intentions, the finest and fairest of plans, will have been made in vain if you have not left a valid will to direct the disposition of your estate." Please prayerfully consider including St. Stephen's Cathedral, its mission and its ministry, in your estate planning and will preparation. In peace and faith, **Mark**

The Next Publication Date

Articles for the next Monthly Messenger need to be submitted no later than Sunday, May 22, 2005.

Hopeful “Mental Health” Month!

For over 50 years, the National Mental Health Association has used the month of May to educate the American public about the importance of mental health and the reality of mental illness. The revolution in research has resulted in a rediscovery that serious mental illness is a result of a chemical, electrical, structural, or traumatic problem in the brain. Mental illness can profoundly disrupt a person’s ability to think, feel and relate to others and their environment. Genetics, environmental, situational, historical experiences and unhealthy learned behavior patterns are also contributing factors.

If any of the following symptoms are long-lasting or increase in severity, seek professional help: lack of energy or interest in life, changes in sleeping or eating patterns, sexual problems, irritability or moodiness, confusion, inability to make decisions or feelings of hopelessness. Persons who suffer from extreme emotional pain or distress and feel unable to cope with their problems are at the greatest risk for suicide. These symptoms may also be indicative of an underlying physical problem. Consult your health care provider to determine the correct diagnosis and treatment.

The proliferation of medications may enable persons to live more productive lives, but these are not a cure. Determining the right drug requires expertise as well as a cooperative relationship between the individual, physician, and often the family. Psychotherapy, preferably from a licensed professional, is also another very important aspect of the treatment plan developed for the individual. Counseling can help the person: change stressors, negative self-talk, unhealthy lifestyles, develop strength to become more interdependent, practice healthy communication, develop coping skills that can enable him/her to live successfully. Developing a healthy lifestyle of good nutrition and exercise at least three times a week has been proven to be a very useful tool in the overall therapy.

What can we do for someone who struggles with this type of illness? We can show them that we care by just walking with them, praying for them and encouraging them to comply with their treatment regime. We can mentor them in their relationship to Christ and affirm that Jesus loves them and can help them live a satisfying life with His strength.

Liz Fite
Parish Nurse

Follow up: Downtown Emergency Homeless Shelter

Recollections of this past winter’s weather may be fading, but for those who volunteered for the Downtown Emergency Shelter ministry, memories may last for quite awhile. Four host churches opened their doors, rotating from December through March, offering up to 35 homeless men and women a safe, warm place to sleep. Several area churches helped to “staff” the nightly oversight of the initiative. St. Stephens was responsible for coordinating volunteers for one week in February and one in March. My

SPRING LUNCHEON

For persons 55 years and over

Saturday, May 21, 2005

12 noon to 2:30 PM

(no charge)

St. Stephen’s Uppercroft
(Elevator Available)

Featuring favorite songs
sung by:

The Reeder Sisters

For

Reservations and Transportation

Call: Liz Fite, Parish Nurse 236-4059

Helen Hendrickson 545-2956

OR

Sign up in the Narthex

Sponsored by the Parish Health Ministry

sincere thanks go to all who participated from St. Stephen’s and from Messiah College.

Recruiting a sufficient number of volunteers, (as many as four per night, serving from 9 PM through 7 AM the next morning), seemed a daunting task at the start. Parishioner John Harles recommended a student organization from Messiah College, *the Agape Center for Service Learning* and their service ministry - *Hunger and Homelessness Outreach*, headed by student director, Megan Wells. Messiah student volunteers eagerly filled more than half of the slots for the two-week period. The rest of the slots were filled by members and friends of the parish and, in some cases, volunteers from the host churches, Grace United Methodist and St. Michael’s Lutheran. Both the pastor from St. Michael’s and the Family Life Coordinator from Grace, conveyed their appreciation to the parish and the volunteers.

Following comments received from volunteers. These happen to be from two of the Messiah students, but they are fairly representative of reports from others over the several years of this ministry. “I [volunteered] two times, once in February and once in March. Both times were great experiences. I found that both churches had very organized set ups that made it easy for the volunteers to do their jobs. My favorite part of the experience was the socialization time where I got to interact with the homeless. I found that they were very kind and polite and I had interesting conversations with them. Overall, I feel that I have learned a lot from this experience and would encourage anyone to do it!” (J. Rivera)

“Just wanted to let you know how much I grew from my experience working at the shelter. One hears so many things about homeless people that it is refreshing to work with them and discover they are God-loved human beings

with individual histories and unique personalities. My time at the shelter served as a blessing to me as I talked with the people there. Thank you for providing this opportunity and serving the least of these.” (F. Watts)

For next year, the scope of the Downtown Emergency Shelter initiative is unknown. Christian Churches United has received a large federal grant towards a permanent “Safe Haven” shelter. Regardless, the needs of homeless people will not disappear, and I suspect that area churches will continue to be relied upon for support.

~ Bill Ilgenfritz

Eastertide Bible Study: A Journey Through the Wisdom Literature

Please join us as we continue to explore Proverbs, Job, and Ecclesiastes. This will be an open, interactive, spirit-focused adventure (not an academic course). We shall meet in the Bishop’s Parlor on Monday evenings from 6:30 - 8 PM (no later), on the following nights: May 16, 23 and 30; June 6. Please bring a Bible or be sure to borrow one from within the Cathedral. The NRSV is preferred. Child care will be available, and a light supper will be offered. You may sign up to bring a covered dish or to let us know you would like to use the child care services by emailing Mary Jane Forbes-Schmidt at forschmid@aol.com or by leaving a message at 302-4209.

~ Mark.

ARTSFEST

ARTSFEST The Harrisburg Arts Council will be holding the annual ARTSFEST Memorial Day weekend, Saturday, May 28 through Monday, May 30. The St. Stephen’s Grill will be providing the best tasting food value on Front Street. This is an event that brings together the entire church and school to serve the community and raise money. Beginning Sunday, May 1st there will be sign-up sheets in the Narthex for volunteers to pick their time slots for each of the three days. **Save the dates and sign up!**

Would you like the Convenience of Online Giving?

The Cathedral currently has the capability to process online giving by going to our website: www.ststep.org and selecting secure online giving. From there, create your own personal account. This is an easy and secure way to give. You will be able to view your transactions and can even setup recurring transactions. Should you need help please don’t hesitate to call the parish office at 236-4059.

Leave your Mark at the Cathedral on an Engraved Brick!

Take a look at the new Cloister area between the Cathedral House and the Cathedral. YES, your name (or the name of a friend or loved one) can be inscribed on a brick for \$100 per brick. Forms are available in the back of the church.

CATHEDRAL CALENDAR

May	1	THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
	1	Blood Pressure Screening, 8:45 a.m.
	1	Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.
	1	Serving at Downtown Daily Bread, 12:00 p.m.
	1	Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m.
	2-4	Scholastic Book Fair, 8:30 a.m.
	2	St. Stephen's School Board of Directors, 6:00 p.m.
	3	Outreach Coordinating Committee, 6:30 p.m.
	3	School 'Spring Program', 7:00 p.m.
	4	Educational Evaluation, 8:00 a.m.
	5	Christian Education and Formation Committee, 6:30 p.m.
	7	A Time to Listen, 9 to 12, Cathedral; 12:15 Light Lunch, Uppercroft 12:30 A Time to Listen
	8	THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
	8	Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.
	8	Parenting in Faith, 11:45 a.m.
	8	Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m.
	8	Youth Event, 6:00 p.m.
	9	Seekers Bible Study, 1:00 p.m.
	9	AIDS Community Alliance Dinner, 5:30 p.m.
	9	Discernment Committee, 6:00 p.m.
	10	Property Committee, 7:00 p.m.
	12	Finance Committee, 7:30 p.m.
	15	THE DAY OF PENTECOST
	15	Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.
	15	Parenting in Faith, 11:45 a.m.
	15	Serving at Downtown Daily Bread, 12:00 p.m.
	15	Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m.
	15	Christian Seay Concert, 6:00 p.m.
	16	Eastertide Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.
	19	Vestry, 7:00 p.m.
	21	Active Aging Luncheon, 12:00 p.m.
	22	TRINITY SUNDAY
	22	Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.
	22	Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m.
	22	Youth Event, 6:00 p.m.
	23	Seekers Bible Study, 1:00 p.m.
	23	Eastertide Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.
	24	Evangelism Committee, 7:00 p.m.
	27-30	ARTSFEST
	29	THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
	30	Office Closed
	30	Eastertide Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.

Youth Group Fundraising Continues

The Youth Group is continuing to sell Giant Food gift cards and to collect receipts from Fox’s Market to fund Youth Group activities. Gift cards are available from Connie Wilson or Mary Jane Forbes Schmidt. If you shop at Fox’s Markets, save your receipts and bring them to the collection box located in the Narthex. Contact Connie at (717) 534-0642 or c2wilson@comcast.net if you have questions.

A Time to Listen: To The Holy Spirit, To One Another

Saturday May 7, 2005

9 AM - Morning Prayer

Prayer/Silence/Discernment

10 AM - Meditation

Prayer/Silence/Discernment

11 AM - Meditation

Prayer/Silence/Discernment

12 Noon - Prayers for Noonday,
in the Cathedral

12:15 - Light Lunch, in the Uppercroft

12:30 - A Time to Listen

This will be a time to listen prayerfully to one another, without dialogue, debate or discussion. Each person, if they feel called, will be invited to speak for up to 3 minutes. Persons are asked to reflect upon and speak prayerfully to the following questions:

1. Who do you discern that we are?
2. Who do you pray we might become?
3. How do you pray we might get there?

We shall close with prayer, when the Holy Spirit reminds us that today's ministry is done.

Annual Church Picnic!

Mark your calendars, the picnic this year will be held on SUNDAY, JUNE 5 immediately following the 10:15 a.m. service. The picnic this year will again be held on City Island at the Pavilion along the river: Newcomers to St. Stephen's will be welcomed as part of the festivities. A sign up sheet will be available for those attending to contribute a salad or dessert. Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be provided. We will also need a few individuals to help with set up and clean up. This year activities for the kids will be provided as well as activities for adults. This is a wonderful event and offers everyone a chance to mingle with friends and enjoy the great outdoors so don't miss it! We are asking for volunteers from the youth group to assist with the kid games, so if you are interested, please contact Shannon Powers. If you have any questions or would like to help with the picnic this year, please contact Bernadette Kaiser at 774-2021. Hope to see there!

Armed Forces Prayer List

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES: especially John Abrams, Brian Benner, Rick Cassel, Katie Corl, Danielle and Chris Frazier, Nathan Godfrey, Justin Hartfelder, Daniel Houghton, Matthew Lapitsky, Shane Logue, Scott McKnight, Jason Miller, Scott Ralston, Jonathan Slaten, Jud Smith, Peter Taczanowsky, Jay Transue, and Matthew Warne.

UPDATES:

† LTJG John Abrams, and his wife Meghan, are stationed in Bremerton, WA. John serves in the US Navy on the USS Camden. He is currently sailing in Dubai, Persian Gulf, where his ship supplies the USS Carl Vinson battle group. John is the son of Chip and Jayne Abrams.

A Time to Listen ~ May 7

After hearing of such an intentional time for prayer, reflection, discernment and listening in the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia (and eventually elsewhere), it was my heartfelt feeling that the Cathedral Family would appreciate a similar period of quiet and introspection, holy listening and engagement with God. That is all this day is, no more, no less. You are under no obligation to attend for the entire day. Please come, at any hour, if you feel moved to do so. No votes are being taken or decisions made. Your prayers, presence, intercessions or silence are simply and truly welcome at any time throughout the morning and afternoon, as we seek to know God and to have God better know us. ~ Mark.

- † Chris and Danielle Frazier both serve in the Army Reserves and are stationed at Fort Indiantown Gap. Chris is the brother of Jonathan Frazier.
- † Bill and Jackie Lapitsky are so happy to announce that their Matthew has finished his tour of duty in Iraq and is back in the USA safely. Please know that your prayers have not only sustained them but also, they are certain to have kept him safe during this time of turmoil. They offer their heartfelt "thanks" to each of you and ask that you continue your prayers for our brave forces at home and in any harm's way. And, always, pray for peace in our time.
- † Judd Smith, step-son of Marsali Hansen, recently completed a tour of duty in Iraq.
- † CPT Jay Transue, brother of Beth Transue, is stationed with his wife, Kristina, and their two children in Fort Hood, TX. He serves in the Signal Corps, 1st

Cavalry Division, US Army. He recently returned to Fort Hood after serving 14 months in Baghdad, Iraq.

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP, 823)

To add or update an individual on this prayer list, please contact Beth Transue, 432-5413, bmtransue@hotmail.com.



Mark Your Calendars for July 7th

It's finally Spring! And we know what that means! It's time for baseball, and a trip to Camden Yards. Mark your calendars for Thursday, July 7, 2005. On that day, the bus will depart Harrisburg at 4 p.m. for the trip to Baltimore. For a refreshing change, we will see the Baltimore Orioles play the World Champion Boston Red Sox! (Who needs those old Yankees anyway?) A box lunch and refreshments will be provided, all for the bargain price of \$45 per person, or 2 tickets for \$85. You may send your checks made payable to St. Stephen's to the Cathedral Office, attention: Mike Frascella. Mike can be contacted at frascell@paonline.com or 944-0710. Let's play ball!

Pete and Carol say "Thanks"

While it is impossible to reach all of you individually, please know how much your ministry of prayer, visitation, calls, and cards have meant to Carol and to me. All those years that we spent talking about marriage in terms of "for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish" now have a significance that we never could have dreamed of. Marriage has evolved into a level of intimacy and into areas of the personal that had to be experienced in order to be appreciated. It truly is a journey of one day at a time. In order to face those days one by one, it is vital to have a support system, to be aware that a compassionate God is your companion. You continue to make Jesus real to us. You have been His hands, His feet, His voice, His heart in our lives. His Spirit lives in us through you. In this Eastertime, we know that Jesus lives! You are that proof! Thank you for being our blessedness!

Love,
Carol and Pete

St. Stephen's School Spring Brings . . .

- **Earth Day!** Posters are hanging in the school lobby. We hope you will stop by to see what our students think ought to be done to save our Earth.
- **Environmental Education!** The students in 7th and 8th grades spent three terrific days at Shaver's Creek near State College. Grades 5 and 6 spent three days at Pine Grove Furnace studying with the staff at King's Gap Environmental Center. Third and 4th graders spent two days exploring the history and ecology at Pine Grove Furnace State Park.
- **Fall Registration!** Some of our classes are nearing capacity. It is important to arrange for fall registration now!

Mother's Day Cards

The Outreach Committee, in conjunction with the YWCA, offers you a very special way to honor a loved one this Mother's Day (May 8th). Your purchase of a beautiful card, featuring the artwork of local artist Susan O. Capelli, is also a donation toward a night of shelter at the YWCA for a mother and her children. Available in bookstore, or call Cathy Jones (761-2575).

Christian Seay Concert

What could be more delightful on a beautiful May evening than a concert! Harrisburg's renowned tenor Christian Seay will be performing in the Nave of St. Stephen's on May 15 at 6:00pm. Light refreshments will follow in the Bishop's Parlor. This wonderful evening is being offered for a freewill donation, upon this special occasion. All proceeds will go directly to our Capital Campaign. The Arts and Drama Committee is proud to announce this extraordinary opportunity to bask in fine music and benefit the Cathedral. The concert has been made possible through the generosity of Warren and Dorothy Gillam.

St. Cecilia . . .

Attention all past and present St. Cecilia Choir Members. You are invited to attend the Spring Luncheon to be held Saturday, May 21st at 12 noon in the Uppercroft. Kathy Dunn, our former Choir director, along with her sisters will be providing the entertainment. There is no charge, however, reservations are needed. Please call Helen Hendrickson - 545-2956.

Bigler House for Sale

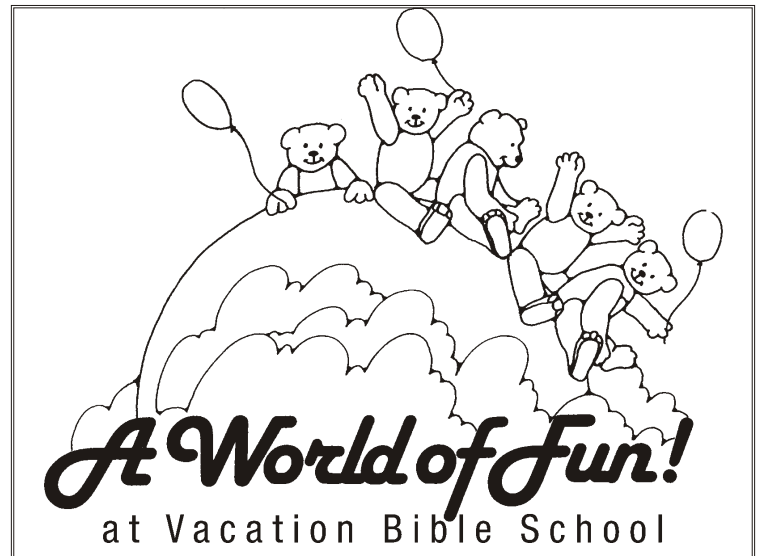
As the Vestry Highlights state, the Vestry at the April meeting voted to offer the Bigler House property for sale to any member of the Cathedral at fair market value for a period of thirty (30) days, beginning with the publication of notice in the Messenger. For those members who may not be familiar with this property, we offer the following information.

The Bigler House, which is located at 223 North Front Street, immediately adjacent to the Chapter House, where the Cathedral offices are, was purchased by the Cathedral for \$235,000 in 1999. At the time of the purchase, the leadership of the Cathedral anticipated that the building could at some point be used for the expansion of the School or some other Cathedral-related purpose. This purchase pre-dated the plans for the renovation of the Pennsylvania Garage building which ultimately became the primary focus of the Capital Campaign that was launched in September 2001, and where the School is now located. Along with the purchase by the Diocese of the office building at the corner of Front and Pine Streets, the purchase of the Bigler House had the effect of making the block from Cranberry Alley to Pine Street, an "all-Episcopalian" block. Bigler House was rented out as office space until January 2004, with the Cathedral receiving income of approximately \$30,000 per year. In January 2004, the tenant, McKissick and Associates, moved out, and despite our good faith efforts, no other tenant has been located. As a result, the property has sat vacant, except for the parking spaces in the back, which have been rented since last summer at a rent of \$400 per month at the present time. For over seven (7) months, the leadership of the Cathedral has publicly and openly studied and evaluated the options for the Bigler House that are available to us. For some, the mission of the Cathedral should not include a role as a landlord of commercial office space, and thus, they urge that the property be sold. There are others, however, who want to keep this property, to renovate it, and to rent it out as office space, with the income coming back to the Cathedral. Others anticipate that the School might at some point in the future want to expand, and the Bigler House could provide that option. Unfortunately, the estimates that we have received for the cost of the renovations necessary to rent the building out as attractive office space range from \$100,000 to \$150,000. Simply stated, this is money that the Cathedral does not have, and given the outstanding loans of some \$1 million, it does not appear prudent to extend the indebtedness of the Cathedral. If the renovations were made and the property leased as office space, it is anticipated that the rental income would be at most \$30,000 per year, and probably less than that, after utilities, taxes, and maintenance costs are factored in. At present the cost of the outstanding debt owed by the Cathedral is some \$80,000 per year.

Again, after careful study and thorough discussion, the Vestry voted at its April meeting, to offer the Bigler House property for sale to any member of the Cathedral at fair market value for a period of thirty (30) days. Any written offers that the Cathedral receives will be reviewed by the Vestry at its meeting on May 19th. Any questions

concerning this property should be directed to the Wardens or the Interim Dean. In the event no bona fide offer is received from a member of the Cathedral, the Vestry will decide what the next step will be with regard to the Bigler House property.

Vacation Bible School – Around the World



in 5 Days: Living as Forgiven Children of God

All aboard! All children ages 4 through Grade 5 are invited to join us this summer on an exciting train ride through the wonderful world of mission! Get your passport stamped as we take an imaginary trip to the countries of Taiwan, Northern Ireland, Brazil, Zimbabwe, and Nepal. We will learn a little about what it might be like to live in each country by playing games, creating crafts, and tasting foods common to these lands. We will also read letters written by mission workers and Bible stories to help us learn why and how to live as forgiven children of God.

Vacation Bible School will take place during the evenings of Sunday, July 24 through Thursday, July 28 from 6:00 to 8:00 on the first floor of the St. Stephen's school building. Look for registration information soon! If you have any questions or are interested in helping, please contact Becky Tartline at 728-9326 or rtartline@verizon.net.

Summer Sunday School

The last Sunday of the regular Sunday School year is June 12. Summer Sunday School will begin on July 10 and run through August 14. For those six Sundays, a class for children ages 3-9 will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the kindergarten classroom on the first floor of the St. Stephen's School building.

As always, committed and caring teachers are needed.

If you think you might be available to teach for a Sunday or two during the summer, please contact Ellen and John Harles at 731-0394 or jetharles@comcast.net.



Cathedral Church of Saint Stephen and Cathedral House Harrisburg, PA

the CATHEDRAL MESSANGER

Visit our Web Site:
www.ststep.org

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN

221 N. Front Street
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Web Site: www.ststep.org

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TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

PARISH LEADERSHIP

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| <i>Bishop</i> | Michael Creighton |
| <i>Interim Dean</i> | Mark H. Hatch |
| <i>Canon Pastor</i> | Daphne S. K. Messersmith |
| <i>Parish Nurse</i> | Liz Fite |
| <i>Deacon Emeritus</i> | Paul Williams |
| <i>Minister of Music</i> | Michael Shoemaker |
| <i>Hospitality Coordinator</i> | Judy Clemmer |
| <i>Senior Warden</i> | Mary Jane Forbes-Schmidt |
| <i>Junior Warden</i> | Ann Elliott |
| <i>Vestry:</i> | Mike Pasenelli |
| Helen Delano | Lynn Schadle |
| Joan Esham | Linda Shorey |
| Warren Gillam | Peter Tartline |
| Gene McHugh | Harry Weber |
| Guy Patterson | Bill Davis |
| <i>Parish Treasurer</i> | Greg Penny |
| <i>Vestry Secretary</i> | Jane Bartholomew |
| <i>Worship Ministry</i> | Becky Tartline |
| <i>Education Ministry</i> | Ted Webber |
| <i>Evangelism Ministry</i> | Craig & Connie Wilson |
| <i>Companion Relationship/Sao Paulo</i> | Betsy Howell, Bill Ilgenfritz |
| <i>Outreach Coordinating Ministry</i> | Helen Hendrickson |
| <i>Parish Health Ministry</i> | Mary Jane Forbes-Schmidt |
| <i>Stewardship Ministry</i> | Wil Everhart |
| <i>Finance Ministry</i> | Joan Esham |
| <i>Property Committee</i> | Jeff Spangler |
| <i>Environmental Stewardship</i> | Ann Elliott |
| <i>Arts and Drama Committee</i> | Carol Lopus |
| <i>St. Stephen's School</i> | Greg Penny |
| <i>Acolyte Warden</i> | John and Ellen Harles |
| <i>Sunday School Coordinators</i> | Kathyann Corl-Rodeheaver |
| <i>"Seeds of Faith" Manager</i> | Margaret Messner |
| <i>Altar Guild</i> | Sandy Strohl |
| <i>Flower Guild</i> | Michael Frascella |
| <i>Usbers</i> | Lizzie Criswell |
| <i>Nursery</i> | Shannon Powers |
| <i>Youth Coordinator</i> | |

