



the CATHEDRAL MESSENGER

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

Vol. 10, No.10

May 23, 2004

Never Pay the Full Price!!

I continue to be intrigued by how different industries advertise and market their products. And I'll start off with the moving industry....that's close to my heart these days!! Here is an industry that relies on "the big discount". I had one estimate for moving that came in at close to \$16,500. No, I didn't add a zero! By the time I went through the labyrinth of figures, jargon and poundage the estimate had gone down to \$7500!

Then there's the marketing that says, "We can't tell you the price, because it is so low. Stop in and find out." TV ads for discount furniture and mattress liquidators usually have one thing in common: the salesman (yes, usually a male!!) is almost always shouting and yelling at the top of his lungs. Why? There is always the indomitable Ron Popeil who has invented everything but the wheel!! Do you have your "Showtime Rotisserie"; just "set it and forget it"! Now Ron Popeil is hawking his miracle knives that never need sharpening even though you can try sawing a hammer in half with one of them—made easier because the blade is serrated and guaranteed never to get dull! Speaking about never paying the full price; he'll send you his 25 piece knife set, with a juicer and eight more steak knives thrown in, not for it's \$800 value but for \$39.95. But you have to tell a friend!! Consumer Reports even warns that we should never have to pay "full price", MSRP, or "list price".

Whom do you trust? What can you trust?

All this stuff can get pretty far "off the wall"! So too, can the stories about the resurrected Jesus. They can be strange. They are scattered and unique. They differ from Gospel to Gospel. How can they be trusted? How do they stack up against the shouting mattress or sofa liquidator or Ron Popeil or Chef Tony?

Scripture is not bashful about putting human thought in perspective. Isaiah proclaims: "My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor your ways my ways", says the Lord. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts."

It is known that to be a best seller a book cannot contain more than 20% new content. People want to read about what they already know or believe. The mind's resistance to being pushed is similar to the body's complaint when you take it too far at the company picnic's annual softball game. And the limits of the Divine mind??

The story of the passion of our Lord feels credible and sounds like history. Unfortunately accounts of betrayal, abuse, violence, pain, suffering and death are very well known; they are believed in all times and in all places. The startling, erratic, partial, inconsistent accounts of resurrection stretch gullibility and innocence. They seem alien to our common senses, to our hearing, seeing, thinking, 'wording', knowing and communicating.

The resurrection appearances burst the literary containers of their day and ours. They are a new content that cannot be fit into old thought systems. Attempts to make God's grace consistent with human thinking, feeling, and reasoning never works. The ultimate response to the graciousness of God is not "Yeah, that's what I thought" but rather "ALLELUIA"!!!!!!

Faithfully,

The Very Rev. Malcolm H. McDowell, Jr.
Dean

WEEKLY LITURGIES AT THE CATHEDRAL

| | | |
|------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| Sunday: | Holy Eucharist, Rite II | 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. |

News and Events

Save the Dates for the Season of Celebration

The last *Messenger* announced the scheduling of four events celebrating the service of Mac and Kathie McDowell to St. Stephen's. Here is some more information:

- Mac and Kathie will be honored at this year's annual parish picnic **June 20th** at Riverside Park Pavilion, City Island, from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.
- On **June 25th** there will be a ticketed event at the Wyndham Hotel (formally the Marriott in Swatara Township) This will be an evening banquet with a program. Cost will be \$30 per person.
- On the McDowell's last Sunday at St. Stephen's, **June 27th**, we'll have a combined service at 9:00 a.m., followed immediately with a family parish brunch held concurrently in both the Undercroft and Uppercroft for all parishioners.
- In the tradition of "Cathedral Baseball" we will have a "Mac Day" at Commerce Bank Park (Riverside Stadium). A block of tickets have been reserved for the Harrisburg Senators game on the evening of **June 28th**. Tickets cost \$6 each.

We hope you will be able to participate in one or all of these special events so save the dates.

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 a friend or relative) can be inscribed on a brick for \$100 per brick. Forms are available in the back of the church.

The Gathering (St. Stephen's Book Group)

Our choice for June is Changing Habits by Debbie Macomber. Read and join us!

Used Book Sale

(During ARTSFEST)

Spiritually-Oriented

Books, Tapes, CDs plus
Children's Books & Music

"Spring-Clean" your bookshelf, and bring your donations to the Bookstore

Volunteers needed to sort – price donations – and to staff the table during ARTSFEST.

CATHEDRAL PARISH TO HOST DIOCESAN CONVENTION

2004 is a very special year in the life of our Diocese. It is the 100th anniversary of the Diocese and special activities are being planned. As the Cathedral Parish in the Diocese we have been asked to be "hosts" for the Convention which is held on the campus of Bucknell University. This is an honor for us, but it also means a "SERIOUS CALL" for volunteers to assure the smooth running of this Centennial Celebration.

Volunteers are needed for:

- ✠ Convention Day on Friday, June 11. Ten (10) volunteers need to be on hand for registration that starts at 8:00 a.m. on Friday. Accommodations are available at Bucknell at no expense to the volunteer. Work includes assisting with registration, serving as greeters, gatekeepers on the floor of convention and offering hospitality to those attending.

For more information and to volunteer, please call Pat Strohl at 796-2349.

Thank you for responding.

Sunday Forums through June 1

A 4-week series, featuring the "Good News," which is a model for small group conversation built on the gospel of Jesus Christ that was developed by the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, MA in the aftermath of controversy and confusion following General Convention. Using material from the four gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John – the Good News focuses on three central visions: Justice, Compassion and Reconciliation.

May 23

"Reconciliation" – Led by the Rev. John Sivley, a counselor at Philhaven.

Since the Diocesan Convention convenes in June, our last substantive forum will focus on what issues will be before the delegates in 2004.

May 30

"Diocesan Convention Issues" – St. Stephen's Delegates

JUNE 2004

June 6

Forum wrap-up and evaluation. Please come and tell us how we did.

Inquirers Class is ongoing

We have begun! Our Inquirers class continues on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. for all those with some curiosity about church or faith. Join us any week in Mac's office.

Outreach: Trip to El Hogar

The following was written by former parishioner Jan Grier. Jan and her husband Jim now reside in Florida.

During 2003, St Stephen's Outreach Committee participated in the planning of a jointly sponsored mission trip to El Hogar, an orphanage and school in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The partner in the sponsorship and planning was Market Square Presbyterian Church of Harrisburg. The good news is that the trip happened in March of '04, but the bad news is that several of the parishioners from St. Stephens Cathedral, originally planning to go, were unable to attend. I was able to represent St. Stephens on the trip.

A joint presentation of the trip by Susan Mountz, the coordinator from Market Square, and myself is in the planning stages. Although mission trip participants paid their own expenses, both St Stephens (through an Outreach grant and donations collected at December's "Gifts for the World" event) and Market Square contributed to the \$2000 donation to cover the costs of material and supplies for the work that was completed by the volunteers and other laborers on site.

Some brief facts: seven volunteers traveled to Honduras and stayed at El Hogar. Honduras has an unbelievable 40% unemployment rate in the capital city. We were told that it is much higher in the rural areas. About 80 boys live at El Hogar between the ages of 6 and 13. At age 13 the boys choose continued schooling in farming, electrical work or carpentry. El Hogar is an international Episcopalian mission. For one week the volunteers ate and worked with the boys, falling in love with them all. Not all are orphans, but all are without the means to live without help.

Jan

Note: We look forward to a future presentation on the Harrisburg group's El Hogar experience. You can find further information about El Hogar on a web site linked to The Episcopalian at <http://www.episcopalian.org/elhogar/index.htm> We hope to involve the parish again next year, hopefully promoting more awareness and participation.

Contact Bill Ilgenfritz with any questions at 238-8061.

Needed

Did you know that the Parish Health Ministry takes blood pressures and distributes hygiene products to an average of 20 needy and homeless folks every other Wednesday at Downtown Daily Bread? We are in need of the following hygiene products so that we can continue to distribute the items to those less fortunate than us:

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| Deodorant | Shampoo |
| Shaving Crème | Socks (White Gym Socks) |
| Bars Of Soap | Wash Clothes |
| Combs | |

There will be a crate located in the Narthex during the month of May. Please contribute what you can to help this very important ministry! Thank you!

Available at "The Seeds of Faith" Bookstore

The following item is available at the bookstore and feature work by Jonathan Frazier:

- ☺ Reproduction of the faith through the arts pen and ink drawing of the Cathedral of St. Stephen's – created by Jonathan Frazier for sale for \$30.

ARTSFEST

Memorial Day Weekend is almost upon us. It means the "unofficial" beginning of summer. It also means ArtsFest in downtown Harrisburg, one of the premier Arts Festivals in the country. With good weather it is ALWAYS a wonderful time. ArtsFest also means "food concession" for our parish and the need for an "army" of volunteers. So far, sign-ups have gone very well. Let's fill in the blanks this week. This is one of our biggest fund raisers. You just can't get a better Hot Dog or Hamburger anywhere else!!

Summer Sunday School

Attention parents and caregivers for children, ages 3-9: the last Sunday of the regular Church School year is June 6. Summer Sunday School will begin on July 11 and run through August 15. For those six Sundays, we will meet at 10:00 am 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 week or two during the summer, contact Ellen and John Harles, 731-0394 or jetharles@comcast.net.

Congratulations, graduates !!!

The Class of 2004 includes the following students and members of our parish: Will Jones is graduating from Woodberry Forest and will be going on to Gettysburg College to major in business. Becky Dernbach is graduating from Camp Hill High School and will go on to study at Carleton College. Mac Garber will attend William & Mary College, and Anna Stanchak will be studying elementary education at Indiana University.

Please keep these graduates in your thoughts and prayers as they look ahead to a new chapter in their lives.

(Jonathan Frazier, Youth Activities Coordinator)



With the Orioles playing good ball so far this season and the Yankees appearing to finally show some life, interest has picked up on our outing to Camden Yards to see them play. Only 5 tickets remain for this game on June 22.

Gathering 2004

Shall We Gather at the River

Celebrating the Centennial Anniversary of the Episcopal Diocese of Central PA

Who: You, our Parish Family

When: June 12, 2004

Schedule: Ministries Fair Set-up 9:00 a.m.

Ministries Fair Open 9:45 a.m.

On-going Musical Entertainment 10:00 a.m.
(Including a Hymn-sing)

Outdoor Eucharist 11:00 a.m.

Picnic Lunch 12:30 p.m.

Where: Shikellamy Park Marina
Sunbury, PA
(about an hour's drive)

Bring: Lawn Chairs
Desserts to be shared

Provided: Picnic lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, ham and cheese sandwiches, macroni salad, lemonade - water.

Accessible Rest Rooms

Paths for walking, skating, hiking.

Leashed dogs welcome

The scenic Susquehanna River everywhere you look.

Carpooling is encouraged – friendly to the environment as well as each other.

A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

Visit our Web Site:
www.ststep.org

the CATHEDRAL
 MESSENGER

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN

221 N. Front Street
 Harrisburg, PA 17101-1437
 e-mail: cathedral@ststep.org
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TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

PARISH LEADERSHIP

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Bishop</i> | Michael Creighton |
| <i>Dean</i> | Malcolm McDowell |
| <i>Canon Pastor</i> | Daphne Messersmith |
| <i>Parish Nurse</i> | Liz Fite |
| <i>Deacon Emeritus</i> | Paul Williams |
| <i>Facilities Manager</i> | Skip DeMarkey |
| <i>Organist-Choirmaster</i> | Michael Shoemaker |
| <i>Hospitality Coordinator</i> | Judy Clemmer |
| <i>Bookkeeper</i> | Donna Osborne |
| <i>Senior Warden</i> | Craig Wilson |
| <i>Junior Warden</i> | Mary Jane Forbes-Schmidt |
| <i>Vestry:</i> | Gene McHugh |
| Helen Delano | Guy Patterson |
| Ann Elliott | Greg Penny |
| Joan Esham | Lynn Schadle |
| Gerald Garber II | Rosemary Webber |
| Warren Gillam | Bill Davis |
| <i>Parish Treasurer</i> | Paul Nickalls |
| <i>Vestry Secretary</i> | Jane Bartholomew |
| <i>Worship Ministry</i> | Becky Tartline |
| <i>Education Ministry</i> | Ted Webber |
| <i>Evangelism Ministry</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> | Gerry Garber |
| | Thomas Schmidt III |
| <i>Finance Ministry</i> | Jeff Spangler |
| <i>Environmental Stewardship</i> | Carol Lopus |
| <i>St. Stephen's School</i> | Greg Penny |
| <i>Acolyte Warden</i> | John and Ellen Harles |
| <i>Church School Coordinator</i> | Kathynn Corl-Rodeheaver |
| <i>"Seeds of Faith" Manager</i> | Margaret Messner |
| <i>Altar Guild</i> | Sandy Strohl |
| <i>Flower Guild</i> | Michael Frascella |
| <i>Ushers</i> | Carolyn Patterson |
| <i>Nursery</i> | Jonathan Frazier |
| <i>Youth Ministries Coordinator</i> | |

CATHEDRAL CALENDAR

| | |
|--|--|
| <i>May</i> | 23 THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER |
| | 23 Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m. |
| | 23 Transition Committee, 11:30 a.m. |
| | 23 Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m. |
| | 24 Memorial Service for The Rev. Canon John Diehl |
| | 24 Seekers Bible Study, 1:00 p.m. |
| | 25 Arts and Drama Committee, 6:30 p.m. |
| | 25 Evangelism Committee, 7:00 p.m. |
| | 28-31 ARTSFEST |
| | 30 THE DAY OF PENTECOST |
| | 30 Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m. |
| 30 Transition Committee, 11:30 a.m. | |
| 30 Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m. | |
| <i>June</i> | 1 8th Grade Banquet, 6:00 p.m. |
| | 1 Outreach Coordinating Committee, 6:30 p.m. |
| | 2 School Awards Program, 9:30 a.m. |
| | 3 Christian Education and Formation Committee, 6:30 p.m. |
| | 6 THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST |
| | 6 THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL VISIT |
| | 6 Blood Pressure Screening, 8:45 a.m. |
| | 6 Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m. |
| | 6 Transition Committee, 11:30 a.m. |
| | 6 Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m. |
| | 7 St. Stephen's School Board of Directors, 6:30 p.m. |
| 10 Finance Committee, 7:30 p.m. | |
| 11 Diocesan Convention, Bucknell | |
| 12 The Gathering, Shikellamy Park Marina | |