



the CATHEDRAL MESSENGER

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

Vol. 10, No.16

August 15, 2004

Letter from Bishop Creighton

Dear Friends in Christ at St. Stephen's,

Greetings. I want to offer profound thanks for the people who have worked so prayerfully and diligently to discern a call of the Interim Dean. Now we will soon welcome the Rev. Mark Hatch. I ask everyone to heartily greet him when we arrives in late August. Mark and Daphne, accompanied by your dedicated staff will give you fine spiritual leadership as St. Stephen's moves ahead surrounded by so many blessings and graced to meet the many challenges in your life.

I was a rector for almost thirty years, and I know the demands, pressures, blessings and humbling moments of having that kind of responsibility. When I was at my best I knew who the true Leader was. While I was "on the balcony", in the pulpit, in the hospital room, or chairing a meeting my best self did all it could to "step aside" and let Christ lead. When that happens, everyone knows it. Rectors and Deans are in the limelight, but only to put Christ in the limelight.

God willing, you will have that in Mark. You have it in Daphne. St. Stephen's has had fine leaders, and you are a congregation with enough experience and wisdom to know whose you are.

Times of leadership transition bring out many anxieties. That is human and natural. It can be an unsettling time. What is needed is for all of you to encourage one another, cheer one another and band together with Christ to allow the life and ministry of St. Stephen's shine and flourish.

The Right Rev. Michael W. Creighton
Bishop, Diocese of Central Pennsylvania

Services During August

Wednesday 7:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist with
laying-on-of-hands for healing

Thursday 12:10 p.m.

Holy Eucharist with
laying-on-of-hands for healing

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Informal Eucharist with
Contemporary Music

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist with Hymns

News and Events

The Gathering . . .

Book Group discussions: Bury Me Standing on August 18 and The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay on September 14 both in the Sherman Library at 7:00 p.m. Join us for some lively conversation!

Appointment of Interim Dean

Vestry is pleased to announce that The Reverend Mark H. Hatch has accepted our call to join the Cathedral as Interim Dean. This call was based on the unanimous recommendation of the committee that interviewed candidates.

Mark is canonically resident in the Diocese of Western Massachusetts. He was ordained as Deacon and Priest in 1991. He currently serves as Interim Rector of St. Matthew's Anglican Church in Terrace, British Columbia. (Try to find Terrace on a map and ask him about the similarities and differences between the parishes!) Previously, Mark served as Priest-in-Charge of Christ Church in South Barre, Massachusetts, Associate Rector of St. Francis Church in Holden, Massachusetts, Interim Rector of Holy Trinity Church in Southbridge, Massachusetts, Associate Chaplain of the Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital, and Vicar of St. Andrew's Church in North Grafton, Massachusetts. He was educated at Dartmouth College (B.A.) and Harvard University (M. Div.).

Mark has focused his ministry in recent years on parishes in transition. The committee that interviewed him was impressed by his insights into the process of studying strengths and needs in a parish and preparing for the call of a new Rector or Dean. We believe that he will provide excellent leadership and guidance for us during the interim period until we call a new Dean.

We are excited about Mark's upcoming arrival. We hope you will join us in welcoming him at the 5:00 p.m. service on Saturday evening the 28th or . . . 9:00 a.m. service and reception on August 29.

Summer Fun . . .

Lemonade and T-shirts are such a part of summertime relaxation...Every Sunday in August you are invited to Lemonade-in-the-Garden after the 9:00 a.m. service. It's an opportunity to enjoy fellowship with those you don't often see and a chance to purchase your one-of-a-kind St. Stephens T-shirt in beautiful cathedral purple. Samples will be on display! Immediate delivery is guaranteed! Proceeds go to the operating funds! Get yours now!

Parish Family News!

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW PARENTS Jenny Doherty and Richard Schadle Doherty on the birth of their daughter Margaret Esther Doherty (and to big sister Sarah!). Little Margaret is the granddaughter of Diane and Lynn Schadle!

Are you called to a Special (Musical) Ministry?

In the last several weeks you have heard and read much about this time of transition and change that our Parish is going through. People are being challenged to lead more active roles in the life and ministries of St. Stephen's. Many wonderful people have already stepped forward and taken leadership roles. This is a wonderful and exciting thing!

I have been associated with St. Stephens for nearly 53 years, having come here as a boy chorister in the fall of 1951. During that time I have seen five rectors depart. I have seen countless canon pastors, curates, and various assistant priests come and go. I'm about to be associated with my third interim dean in my tenure as your organist and choirmaster. In all these years I have found only one constant - and that is change.

As the Cathedral is at a crossroads, so is the Cathedral Choir. Over the past several years you have seen the stalls slowly empty. Please believe me when I say that no one is more grieved over this than I am. When I came here 53 years ago there were over 50 in the Choir of Men and Boys and there were well over 20 members of the Choir of St. Cecilia. Right now we only have 14 members - and that is on a Sunday with perfect attendance! Although I am extremely proud of these 14 choristers and the magnificent job they do, they do need help.

We are working hard to restore our proud 110-year tradition of a men and boys choir while at the same time bolstering the ranks of women and girls. The music program of the Cathedral Church of St. Stephen must rely on the members of the congregation to support the program with your presence. I have heard many people claim that all they need is to be asked. Consider yourself asked!

I challenge you to examine this, your call, to the ministry of music at St. Stephen's. If you enjoy singing we need you to lend your voice in praise of God. Talk to your son or daughter, grandchild, niece or nephew and invite them to join the choir. You don't have to have a trained or operatic voice for us to value your presence. Choir members confirm that they continually surprise themselves with what they accomplish. Think of it as on the job training! And a bit of a mid-week therapy session where you can put the bustle of the world aside for a few hours.

However, I feel strongly that the music program has a great deal to offer both children and adults. The choir will be stronger with you, you will be stronger with the choir, and the parish will be a stronger, more exciting and inviting place for our community. Please, speak to me soon!

Michael Shoemaker
Organist and Choirmaster

Healthy Parish / Healthy Kids

Safeguarding God's Children is a program of the Episcopal Church which raises awareness and provides tools for making sure that children are protected from molestation and abuse. This program consists of 2 videotapes followed by discussion and is required for Sunday School Teachers, Youth Workers, Acolyte Directors and those who conduct music ministry. Safeguarding God's Children will be offered twice before the school year begins: on Sunday **August 15** following the 9:00 a.m. service (trying to end by lunchtime), and Saturday afternoon **August 28** at 3:00 p.m. (we will try to end in time for the 5:00 Eucharist). Other opportunities will be provided in the fall. PLEASE let Becky Tartline or Daphne know which of these sessions you will attend and if you will need childcare. There is no cost but we need to know numbers so that we have enough materials for all.

Hospice Ministry . . .

Information on Hospice volunteer training can be found on the "Spiritual Resources" bulletin board outside the Seeds of Faith Bookstore. (down the hallway behind the altar) Check it out!

Outreach (Formerly "Isaiah 58")

One of the programs recently supported by the Cathedral through the Outreach Coordinating Committee is Christ Lutheran Health Ministries of Harrisburg. Located in the Allison Hill Section of the city, the program received a \$3,000 grant to purchase life-sustaining medications for area low income and homeless individuals with no prescription benefits. On the surface, that may seem like a lot of money, but if you have ever had to purchase prescription drugs without insurance, you know otherwise.

Other initiatives supported or sponsored by this small congregation on South 13th Street are a Food Voucher program, walk-in nurse clinic, mobile doctor's office, baby furniture bank, durable medical goods bank, and orthopedics bank. All services and goods are provided free of charge. Pastor Jody Silliker of Christ Lutheran, who applied to the Outreach Committee for the grant, was very excited and grateful for St. Stephen's support. So much so, that she has talked about a possible pulpit exchange some Sunday.

Currently, Christ Lutheran Health Ministries has a need for Spanish interpreters. If you or someone you know would be interested in this opportunity, please contact the Cathedral, Helen Hendrickson or Pastor Silliker (737-9553) or jsilliker@pcvsoftware.net

. . . and we have already received a letter from Pastor Jody Silliker:

Letter from Jody Silliker

"August 8, 2004 . . . I'm writing today because I just finished writing a check in the amount of \$532 to the Professional Pharmacy in Camp Hill. They agreed to run a tab for us each month and to sell the medicines at cost. That first check represents 1 month of medications for those who have no other way to turn. Thanks to your shepherding and mentoring of me, it's happening! By the power of Jesus Christ (working through Helen and St. Stephens, doctors, nurses and pharmacists, etc) the lame walk and the blind see in Allison Hill.

Thank you and God bless you. Love, Jody"

Youth Grades 6th - 12 Grade!

Have you heard about all the plans for the Youth Group this year? There are events and activities scheduled from September 2004 until May 2005! To learn more, all parents of children in grades 6 -12 should plan to attend the Youth Group Parents Meeting on Sunday August 29th following the reception for our new interim. While the Youth Group Committee meets with the parents, Mark Hatch will meet with the children of Saint Stephens, all ages. We'll share our plans, information, a calendar and provide opportunity for you to share your support and enthusiasm. Let's all work together to make this an exciting year for our youth!

Pastoral Letter to be read in parishes during August

Dear Friends in Christ in Central Pennsylvania,

I write to you about the human devastation in the Sudan. There has been genocide in the eastern region. There has been draught and incredible hunger.

Episcopal Relief and Development is helping. ERD is the main arm of The Episcopal Church that reaches out to intense global needs.

At the spring meeting of the House of Bishops I had the honor one evening of sitting next to two bishops from the Sudan. They were humble men who faced conflict, violence, hunger and tremendous refugee populations. They do it with heart and faith, but with next to no resources.

I am asking every parish in the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania to call for a Special Offering at least twice during August Sunday Services. Why August? The time is now. The need is now. I would like to be part of a diocese that responds now. The size of these offerings is not as important as the volume of awareness among us and the willingness of each of us to do something.

Gifts should be made out to the "Diocese of Central Pennsylvania", and marked "ERD-Sudan." Parish may want gifts made out to the parish, and forward the sum to the Diocesan Center. Gifts will go immediately to Episcopal Relief and Development.

Most of the dioceses of the Anglican Church in the Sudan are much larger than Central Pennsylvania, not only in land mass but in numbers of Anglicans. They are our brothers and sisters in Christ and I want Central Pennsylvanians to be there for them.

Blessed August to all of you.

+Michael W. Creighton
Bishop

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the CATHEDRAL
 MESSENGER

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN

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TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

PARISH LEADERSHIP

<i>Bishop</i>	Michael Creighton
<i>Interim Dean</i>	Mark Hatch
<i>Canon Pastor</i>	Daphne S. K. 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
<i>Finance Ministry</i>	Thomas Schmidt III
<i>Property Committee</i>	Joan Esham
<i>Environmental Stewardship</i>	Jeff Spangler
<i>St. Stephen's School</i>	Carol Lopus
<i>Acolyte Warden</i>	Greg Penny
<i>Church School Coordinator</i>	John and Ellen Harles
<i>"Seeds of Faith" Manager</i>	Kathyann Corl-Rodeheaver
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Margaret Messner
<i>Flower Guild</i>	Sandy Strohl
<i>Ushers</i>	Michael Frascella
<i>Nursery</i>	Carolyn Patterson
<i>Youth Ministries Coordinator</i>	Jonathan Frazier

CATHEDRAL CALENDAR

<i>August</i>	15	THE 11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
	15	Lemonade Hour, 10:15 a.m.
	15	Safeguarding God's Children
	15	Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m.
	19	Vestry, 7:00 p.m.
	20	Wedding Rehearsal Reed/Popovich, 5:00 p.m.
	21	Wedding Reed/Popovich, 3:30 p.m.
	21	Saturday Evening Service, 5:00 p.m.
	22	THE 12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
	22	Lemonade Hour, 10:15 a.m.
	22	Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m.
	28	Safeguarding God's Children, 3:00 p.m.
	28	Last Saturday Evening Service, 5:00 p.m.
	29	THE 13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
	29	Reception Welcoming Mark Hatch
	29	Lemonade Hour, 10:15 a.m.
	29	Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m.
<i>September</i>		
	2	Christian Education and Formation Committee, 6:30 p.m.
	3-6	Kipona Festival, Riverfront Park
	5	THE 14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
	5	Blood Pressure Screening, 8:45 a.m.
	5	Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.
	5	Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m.
	6	Office Closed, Labor Day
	7	Outreach Coordinating Committee, 6:30 p.m.
	9	Finance Committee, 7:30 p.m.
	10	"Informance" Harrisburg Players Collective, 6:00 p.m.