

The word from two saints

The Church of St. Luke & St. Simon Cyrene
A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester

June 2009
A House of Prayer for All People

From the Rector:

Dear Saints,

On Sunday June 7 (and throughout the month of June) we will all have our yearly opportunity to commit/re-commit ourselves to our parish-based ministries. This event brings up two important words for our life together: ministry and stewardship.

Ministry is simply put, what each one of us is called to do by virtue of our Baptism. Long gone are the days when the clergy alone were thought to be “the ministers” of the Church. We now understand that, as we say in our Weekly Bulletin every Sunday, the ministers of the Church are all the people of God.

What is your ministry? It is what you do in all aspects of your life: your role in your household or as a member of your family and in your circle of friends, your work life, and your volunteering, including in our parish-based ministries. It’s all ministry! We are engaged in it from the time we get up in the morning until we go to bed at night!

Ministry is the use of our gifts (and we all have them) to the glory of God and the betterment of the world—our lives lived in fulfillment of that great phrase from the Lord’s Prayer: “Your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.”

Your primary ministry is out in the world, but we are also all asked to take our share in the life of the Church. St. Paul used the metaphor of the human body for the Church: it takes all kinds of parts using different gifts to make up a healthy body. No part is too small to be important and no part can say of another part, “I have no need of you.” So it is in our common life as a parish.

Stewardship is a word for our responsibility to use our gifts for the common good. Volunteering for our parish-based ministries is an act of stewardship. It is an offering of our time and talent (and, yes, treasure), given in thanksgiving for all that God has done and does for us.

Stewardship, simply put, is how we live our lives in an attitude of gratitude and of self-giving love.

I ask each one of you to claim your ministry among us by filling out a Time & Talent Pledge Form. You’ll find the ministries you expect there that keep our life humming along. You’ll also find a few new things that correspond to some new goals related to our continuing to live into our Vision.

I thank God for the ministry of each and every one of you! Together let us be a body working for God!

Michael

End of Program Year/ Stewardship of Time & Talent

*Trinity Sunday
Sunday, June 7*

Celebrating our Sunday School and other
Formation Programs!
Re-commitment to parish ministries!
This little light of mine...



Newcomer's Welcome Luau June 14, 2009

This year, our annual Luau will be a little different. We will be using this as an opportunity to meet and welcome our newcomers into our parish. This will be a great time to share what you value about our congregation and get to know some of the new faces you have been seeing. The Luau will take place on Sunday, June 14th immediately following our 10:00 a.m. service in the parish hall. The price is \$7.00 per person. Children under 5 are free.

Mark your calendars! You do not want to miss this opportunity for fellowship with our newcomers, and feel like you are getting away in the tropics as well.

Coffee & Conversation?

Wanted: People to meet for coffee and conversation. Let's get together at the new Boulder Coffee on the Corner of Brooks Avenue and Genesee Street. Contact person is Carol Dundas for a date and time.

Thank You to Our Sunday School Volunteers

On June 7 we will celebrate another year of Sunday school for our children and youth. They will have a larger part to play in our service. We will have certificates for those who have attended, and a gift from the parish!

It's also time to say a BIG thank you to our Sunday school teachers. In the nursery: Toni Burr & Mary Kane. In the children's class: Deb Oller, Jeannine Scott-Lamb, Jo Ethel Williams, Burnetta McCullough, Francine Velazquez, Aaron Kane and Jessica Kane. In the Youth class: Chris Cleveland, Annie Laver, Michael Laver, and Dawn Moore. Their talent has benefitted our children and youth throughout the year. When you see them, please thank them for their gifts of time and commitment!

Education for Ministry



Four years ago, John Clinton Bradley and six students began a four-year journey that ended on Pentecost Sunday at the end of May. Five of those six students completed the four-year

Education for Ministry (EfM) course. This is no small accomplishment.

In the course of the last four years, Chris Cleveland, Allan Cuseo, Robert Seidel, Sharon Montoya, and Merle Ann Welsh, have met almost weekly from September through May to study scripture, church history and theology, all as a means to inform their own discernment of ministry. Kudos to them all for persevering!

John Clinton Bradley will step down from mentoring a local seminar group while he continues to mentor an on-line version of the course that serves people from around the country. Thank you, John, for all the time and creativity you have so generously given to make this EfM experience a good one for those involved.

Though these five graduate, the program continues. In the fall, those in the Year 1/2 group will advance to years 2 & 3 respectively. Mary Ann Brody will continue as a mentor for that group with the possibility of adding new members from St. Stephen's and Two Saints, and potentially several members from St. Paul's, Rochester also. Barbara Warner is a trained mentor from St. Paul's, and is willing to join in the task of co-mentoring the group. Our vision is to become a "city" seminar group, drawing members from the Episcopal parishes in and around the city.

It's not too early to start thinking about EfM as an avenue for study, for deepening your faith and understanding of the Bible, and for engaging in conversation with others about your life and ministry. We will begin taking new registrations for fall 2009 this spring. Speak to Mary Ann Brody (546-7730 or ststephenspastor@frontiernet.net) if you might be interested in joining the local group, or to John Clinton Bradley (jcb@johnclintonbradley.name) if you might like to investigate the on-line option.

Bishop at TIAR'S Annual Celebration

By Marilyn Wienk

Bishop Prince Singh will be the featured speaker at the Annual Meeting of the Interfaith Alliance of Rochester (TIAR) on Sunday, June 14, 3:00 p.m., at the Shults Center, Nazareth College. The program is free and open to the public.

Bishop Singh's talk is entitled *A New Economy for a New Era*: How might we build "the beloved community" in the midst of a society preoccupied by individualism, materialism, and competitiveness?

A panel will respond to the Bishop's address, including Dr. Joseph DaBoll-Lavoie, Professor of Economics at Nazareth College; Mr. Edward Lemon, Jr., presenter of programs featuring TIAR's DVD, "The Faces of Poverty"; and Sr. Christine Wagner, Director of St. Joseph's Neighborhood Health Center.

The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester offers information and advocacy about public policy issues in a wide variety of areas affecting people in the city and Monroe County, such as economic justice for Plaza Hotel workers, health care, immigration, prisoner re-entry, government reform, and the registration and turn out of voters. Several of us at Two Saints are members of this organization.

Historical Event Brewing

We are currently working with the Friends of Mt. Hope Cemetery on a possible event at Two Saints in September that will be part of the city's 175th anniversary celebration this year. If anyone is interested in working on this event, please contact Nancy in the Office as soon as possible. Interested persons will meet on Tuesday, June 9 at 6 pm in the Lounge.

Treasures of History at Episcopal Senior Life Communities

Episcopal SeniorLife Communities would like to share a story. The history of Episcopal SeniorLife Communities is a long and rich one. When the Episcopal Church Home first opened its doors in 1868, it opened with a mission to help orphans and widows. Recently, we were able to interview Mrs. Jeanette Smith Ebert who lived at ESLC for 8 years starting in 1930 while she was a young girl. This is an intriguing human interest story:

The rich foundation of The Episcopal Church Home naturally gives way to special treasures of history from time to time. Founded by four Episcopalian women in 1868 with the mission of helping orphans and widows, The Episcopal Church Home has had many people stroll through the halls during its 140-

plus years of caring service. One particular individual visited ECH recently, and she reflected on memories of when she *first* lived at "The Home" while in her teens.

Mrs. Jeanette Smith Ebert lived at The Episcopal Church Home from 1930 to 1938 as a young girl. She returned to The Center for Rehabilitation which is located at The Episcopal Church Home on Mt. Hope Ave. When she had to make a decision on where to receive rehabilitation care, her first choice was Episcopal SeniorLife Communities "because they offered such great care" over 7 decades ago. Times have certainly changed since then, but Mrs. Ebert says that "the care at The Episcopal Church Home has not!"

Now 88 years old, Mrs. Ebert still remembers trips to the circus, Girl Scout outings, and playing cops and robbers in the backyard of The Episcopal Church Home. She speaks fondly of the Board Members at the time who invited her over to their homes, including Mrs. Barry. She also remembers Mrs. Averill, and when the Ford St. Bridge was actually Clarissa St. Mrs. Ebert says, "You always knew the rich kids because they had angora sweaters. Well, one of the first things I bought when I had enough money saved was an angora sweater."

At the time when Mrs. Ebert lived at what was affectionately called "The Home," she was part of a large "family" comprised of women, children, and older adults. Monthly records from the Episcopal Church Home in the 1930s include the closing statement: "Present in the Family: Adults 26, Children 15." The numbers changed, but the same clause remained unchanged: "...in the Family." Episcopal SeniorLife Communities still exists as a family of small communities. The environment at each community, including River Edge Manor, Brentland Woods, and Seabury Woods, is close-knit and feels much like family.

The backyard of "The Home" used to be an open place for the children to play on a swing set, seesaw, and to go tobogganing. Mrs. Ebert tells of picnics by the river and watching the boats on the river.

A fire took place in 1937 shortly after the Fire Marshall came for the annual inspection of the premises, as noted in the monthly reports. The December journal reads: "On November 9th, the Fire Marshall visited the Home for his annual

inspection and commented on how well everything was taken care of. He gave a very close inspection of equipment, clothes closets and rooms; and when asked if there were any recommendations to give, the reply was 'everything is fine.' November 10th an Executive Board Meeting was held. Supt. Reported fuses blew out this morning in kitchen and that two electricians had assured her all was in order. No mention would be made of this but for the fact that at 12:20 a fire broke out on third floor in the roof and no hearing on what we had been concerned about. ...With Miss Murray's help all the family and employees left the building quietly." Mrs. Ebert remembers living at Hillside for a time before moving back with her father. It was after this time that the Episcopal Church Home made the decision to focus care on older adults.

Mrs. Ebert mentions that she was charged \$3.50 per week to stay at the Home. "And that was during the depression!" As we're facing what many call a rough economical situation, she reminds people, "We lived through the first one, we'll live through this one."

-Ashley Greenman
Marketing & Public Relations Associate
Episcopal SeniorLife Communities

General Convention: A Primer

The 76th General Convention of the Episcopal Church will meet July 8-17 in Anaheim, California. The Convention meets every three years to deliberate and discern for the future of the mission of the Episcopal Church. How does General Convention work?

Convention is composed of two houses: the House of Deputies and the House of Bishops. All bishops of the Church are members of the House of Bishops (there are currently around 300). They elect a Presiding Bishop to serve for a nine year term (the election must be confirmed by the House of Deputies). The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori is the current Presiding Bishop, having been elected in 2003. The House of Deputies is composed of up to four clergy and four lay persons from each of the 110 dioceses



of the Church (it is a very large body!). They elect a President who serves for a three year term. The current President of the House of Deputies is Dr. Bonnie Anderson.

Legislation is offered in the form of resolutions, which may be submitted in one of four ways: a Committee of the Convention or of the Executive Council may submit a resolution ("A" resolutions), a Bishop may submit a resolution ("B" resolutions), Diocesan Conventions may submit resolutions ("C" resolutions) and three deputies may submit a resolution ("D" resolutions). Most resolutions are submitted well in advance of the Convention, but they may also be submitted until the end of the third legislative day of the Convention.

Resolutions are submitted to one of 24 Committees of the Convention. Each House has its own set of Committees, although they usually meet jointly. The members of the Committees are appointed by the Presidents of the two Houses. Open hearings (literally anyone may testify) are held on each and every resolution. Committees may alter resolutions. A majority vote in each House is necessary for a resolution to be passed on to the Convention. Ahead of time it is designated, again by the Presidents of the two Houses, which House will receive a resolution first for consideration.

In the House of Bishops resolutions pass by majority vote. The same is true in the House of Deputies except when three or more clerical or lay deputations from different dioceses call for a "Vote by Orders." In that case the House is divided and lay and clergy vote separately by Diocese (each Diocese gets one lay and one clergy vote). They can report a vote "yes," "no," or "divided" (which effectively counts as a "no"). The resolution must receive a majority of "yes" votes in each Order in order to pass. This, in effect, requires a "super majority" for passage.

The entire Convention meets for Bible Study and Eucharist every day. There is an enormous Exhibit Hall of display booths by both companies and organizations. There are also many special events sponsored by everyone from seminaries to advocacy groups to other organizations. A lot is packed into nine days.

The General Convention is the Episcopal Church governing itself for the sake of God's mission in the world.

Major Revision of Church Calendar of Saints Proposed

The General Convention meeting this summer will consider significant changes to the calendar of the Church. Many new remembrances are being proposed to be added. A new resource entitled *Holy Women, Holy Men* will replace *Lesser Feasts and Fasts*. Among those to be added to the calendar include:

- Richard Allen, Colleague of Absalom Jones, Founder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (June 8)
- Francis (Fanny) Crosby, hymn-writer (“Blessed Assurance”) (February 11)
- Frederick Douglass, abolitionist, writer, orator (February 20)
- W.E.B. DuBois, co-founder of the NAACP (August 3)
- James Weldon Johnson, poet and writer (“Lift Every Voice & Sing”) (June 25)
- John Muir, naturalist (April 22)
- Frances Perkins, advocate for social justice, first woman cabinet member (May 13)
- Walter Rauschenbusch, theologian of the Social Gospel (July 2)
- Harriet Beecher Stowe, author and abolitionist (and Episcopalian) (July 1)

Episcopal Night at Frontier Field

It is that time again! Baseball is back. With the warm summer evenings comes another Episcopal Night at Frontier Field. The date is **Friday, June 26th**, the time is 6:05 pm, and the price is \$8.00. The Red Wings will be playing the Columbus Clippers, the new farm team for the Cleveland Indians.

Last year more than 450 Episcopalians were in attendance! Come join the crowd for a fun evening. Just like last year, this is a Rochester Philharmonic orchestra night. They will be playing a few numbers after the game, along with some fireworks.

Sign up to go in the back of the Church or call the Parish office. Make your check out to the parish. Deadline is June 19th.

Congratulations!

Congratulations and blessings on...

Patricia Wheelhouse who was awarded her doctorate from the University of Rochester (Eastman School of Music).

Jennifer Gourdine who is retiring from teaching after 35 years.

Christopher Cleveland, Allan Cuseo, Sharon Montoya, Robert Seidel and Merle Welsh who have graduated from the four year course of Education for Ministry (EfM).

Joint Picnic in July

The joint summer picnic between two Saints and St. Stephen’s will be held on Sunday, July 12 at Noon at Mendon Ponds Park (Canfield Woods Shelter). Hot dogs, hamburgers and vegetarian equivalents will be supplied. Bring a dish to pass. And croquet fans, prepare yourselves for the annual Rector’s Cup!

CROPWalk a Success!



Nine folks from Two Saints/St. Stephen’s walked in this year’s CROPWalk. Pictured: Mary Ann Brody, Shaun Velazquez, Audrey Lewis-Cummings, Bishop Prince Singh, Michael Hopkins, Burnetta McCullough, Nicole Whitakker, and Cheryl and Joanna Franks. Not pictured: Kolleen Morse.

The Word from Two Saints is a publication of:

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A House of Prayer for All People

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JUNE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, June 7—1st Sunday after Pentecost/ Trinity Sunday/All Church Sunday

8 am Eucharist (TS)

10 am Sung Eucharist (TS)

10 am Eucharist with Music (SS)

5 pm Dignity-Integrity Eucharist (TS)

Sunday, June 14—2nd Sunday after Pentecost

8 am Eucharist (TS)

10 am Sung Eucharist (TS)

10 am Eucharist with Music (SS)

5 pm Dignity-Integrity Liturgy of the Word (TS)

Sunday, June 21—3rd Sunday after Pentecost/ Father's Day

8 am Eucharist (TS)

10 am Sung Eucharist (TS)

10 am Eucharist with Music (SS)

5 pm Dignity-Integrity Eucharist (TS)

Sunday, June 28—4th Sunday after Pentecost

8 am Eucharist (TS)

10 am Sung Eucharist (TS)

10 am Eucharist with Music (SS)

5 pm Dignity-Integrity (TS)

Holy Eucharist at 12:05 pm in St. Simon Cyrene's Chapel:

Every Tuesday & Thursday.

Including June 11, St. Barnabas' Day &

June 30, Ss. Peter & Paul (trans.) &

Wednesday, June 24,

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist