

The Stone's Throw

Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church

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The Rector's Focus

Clergy and Congregational Renewal Time • "Sing to the LORD a new song" – Psalm 96

Dear Friends,

Many have asked me about my anticipated sabbatical plans for this year. The short answer: for a variety of reasons, it's not going to happen in 2010! Instead, the Vestry and I are working together on a plan for a concurrent period of renewal time in 2011 for both myself and for the congregation. We are calling this (with no sense of novelty!) the "Clergy and Congregational Renewal Time".

The Renewal Time will begin the week after Easter, 2011, when I take leave of the congregation for about four months (three months of accrued renewal time, and one month of vacation). My plans for the "clergy" part of the renewal time are pretty much the same as they were a year ago (with some minor changes):

- 1) immersion in Spanish language and Latino culture,
- 2) in-depth reading on the "new sciences" chaos, complexity and emergence, and how these relate to the family system networks that make up healthy congregations,
- 3) Volunteer work with at least one "best practices" organization that will help with our long range vision for the Mt. Healthy Alliance,
- 4) Spirituality development, using primarily the Ignatian Spirituality Exercises,
- 5) Travel, both by myself and with my family.

Why a four month time of renewal for clergy? This is part of what the Lilly Endowment has to say about this aspect of renewal time:

"[The pastor's] job is demanding, and pastors perform their duties among a dizzying array of requests and expectations. Congregations are not always easy places, and the responsibilities can sometimes wear down the best pastors. It is not a job for the faint-hearted, but requires a balance of intelligence, love, humility, compassion and endurance. Most importantly, it demands that pastors remain in touch with the source of their life and strength. Like all people of faith, good pastors need moments to renew and refresh their energies and enthusiasm to determine again "what makes their hearts sing." . . . [r]enewal periods are not vacations, but times for intentional exploration and reflection, for drinking again from God's life-giving waters, for regaining the enthusiasm and creativity for ministry."

The above describes my approach and goals for my own renewal time, but what of that for the congregation? What should happen during this four month period that will help all of your hearts to sing a new song? How can each of you drink again from God's life-giving waters to enhance your enthusiasm and creativity for ministry? The Vestry and I have begun planning for the congregational time of renewal. Please pray about what makes your heart sing, and then let a Vestry member know what you hear God saying to you in answer. The Vestry will have this congregational time of renewal as a major agenda item for the foreseeable future, starting with the July meeting. More later, but for now pray for discernment as to what God is calling us to do in the years ahead – and enjoy the summer time!

Your brother in Christ,

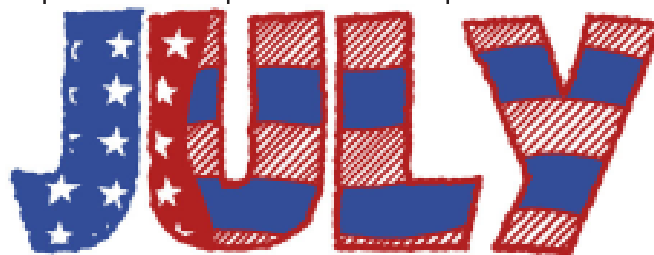
David+

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

July 2010

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Sunday Schedule of Services, unless otherwise noted 8:00 Holy Eucharist I 10:30 Holy Eucharist II 11:30 Fellowship Hour				1	2	3
4 6 Pentecost 8:00 H E I 10:30 HE II 11:30 Fellowship	5 8:00 PM Al Anon	6 7:00 Lexington Heights Civic Association	7 6:30 PM Evening Prayer	8	9	10
11 7 Pentecost 8:00 H E I 10:30 HE II 11:30 Fellowship Vestry After the 10:30	12 8:00 PM Al Anon	13 5:30 Springfield Twp Trustees	14 6:30 PM Evening Prayer	15	16	17
18 8 Pentecost 8:00 H E I 10:30 HE II 11:30 Fellowship	19 8:00 PM Al Anon	20	21 12:00PM Serendipity 6:30 PM Evening Prayer	22	23	24
25 9 Pentecost 8:00 H E I 10:30 HE II 11:30 Fellowship	26 8:00 PM Al Anon	27 3:30 Building & Grounds	28 6:30 PM Evening Prayer	29	30	31



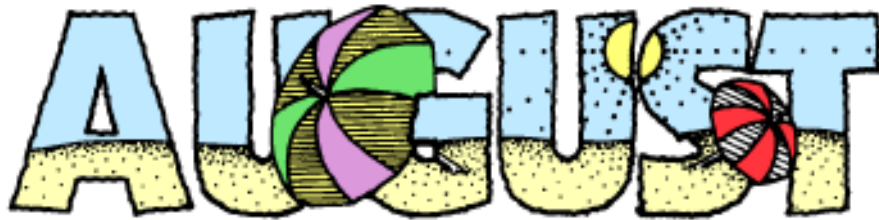
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Serving Our Lord at Saint Stephen's July 2010



ALTAR GUILD (Altar-Linens):

- July 4** Joan DeLisse, Joan DeLisse
July 11 Lisa Elmendorf, Lisa Elmendorf
July 18 Sharon Franklin, Shirley Dillon
July 25 Joan DeLisse, Joan DeLisse

Lay Ministers

Lectors (L), Intercessors (I), Chalice Bearers (C)



- July 4** Molly Bailey (C), Sharon Franklin (C), Lisa Elmendorf (L&I)
July 11 Vivian Templin (C), Don Welti (C), Carina Spendel (L&I)
July 18 Lisa Elmendorf (C), Molly Bailey (C), Sharon Franklin (L&I)
July 25 Carina Spendel (C), Vivian Templin (C), Don Welti (L&I)

L&I = Lector (first lesson) and Prayers of the People. Please check with Fr. David before the service for the form to be used for the prayers.



Fellowship Hour

- July 4** Dick and Jeanne Meagher
July 11 Pat and Mike Murphy
July 18 Nancy McCarthy & Vivian Templin
July 25 Louise Selden and Bebe Hales

Greeters

- July 4** Arlene Gahn
July 11 Joan DeLisse
& Sy Markowicz
July 18 Louise Selden
July 25 Arlene Gahn

Head Usher Chuck Healy

Reaching Fr. David

The best (and most effective) way to reach Fr. David is by calling his cell phone (310-0127). When Fr. David is out of town or otherwise unavailable, please call the Sr. Warden who will contact the priest on call. Please do not call Fr. David's home telephone number for pastoral care issues.

Serving Our Lord at Saint Stephen's

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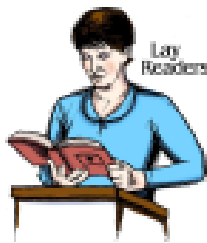


ALTAR GUILD (Altar-Linens):

August 1	Lisa Elmendorf, Lisa Elmendorf
August 8	Sharon Franklin, Shirley Dillon
August 15	Joan DeLisse, Joan DeLisse
August 22	Lisa Elmendorf, Lisa Elmendorf
August 29	Sharon Franklin, Shirley Dillon

Lay Ministers

Lectors (L), Intercessors (I), Chalice Bearers (C)



August 1	Pieter Elmendorf (C), Lisa Elmendorf (C), Molly Bailey (L&I)
August 8	MORNING PRAYER (Don Welti and Sharon Franklin, co-officiants)
August 15	Pieter Elmendorf (C), Carina Spendel (C), Lisa Elmendorf (L&I), Fr. Ed Payne, Celebrant and Preacher
August 22	Don Welti (C), Vivian Templin (C), Sharon Franklin (L&I), Fr. Ed Payne, Celebrant and Preacher
August 29	Lisa Elmendorf (C), Pieter Elmendorf (C), Carina Spendel (L&I), Fr. Ed Payne, Celebrant and Preacher

L&I = Lector (first lesson) and Prayers of the People. Please check with Fr. David before the service for the form to be used for the prayers.



Fellowship Hour

August 1	Tom and Sharon Franklin
August 8	Ann and Gordon Grant
August 15	Paul and Arlene Gahn
August 22	Piet and Lisa Elmendorf
August 29	Joan DeLisse & Sy Markowicz

Head Usher Tom Franklin

Greeters

August 1	Joan DeLisse & Sy Markowicz
August 8	Louise Selden
August 15	Arlene Gahn
August 22	Joan DeLisse & Sy Markowicz
August 29	Louise Selden

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Mt. Healthy Alliance Food Pantry

Anyone having volunteered at the Mt. Healthy Alliance Food Pantry has undoubtedly encountered three young people enthusiastically working at a variety of jobs normally filled by adults.. Bridget, McKenzie, and Michael Lorenz don't wait to be asked, they just pitch in, and get what's needed done.

Recently one of these youngsters, McKenzie, wrote a very inspiring article for the Mt Healthy Alliance newsletter. I thought it was more than worthy enough to pass on the St. Stephen's congregation.

Dick Meagher

A Fourth Grader's View of Our Pantry

I am a good citizen when I volunteer at my grandmother's food pantry. When I go help out I have to work many hours. The pantry is open on Monday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings and Tuesday evenings. I work on Monday morning.

When I help out, I always help people go through the line to get their food. Each family is allowed a certain amount of food for how many people live with them. If they're diabetic, they get food from a different section. In the end, I bag the food for them

When the Free Store truck comes, we always have tons of food to shelve. I shelve it in the back room where all the food is kept. The categories are grains, meat, protein, veggies, fruit, miscellaneous and personal items. Before we stock it, we make sure the expiration date is okay. When we are really low on food, we have to buy food.

At the end of the year we have a volunteer appreciation party.

The lesson I learned from volunteering at the food pantry is that we are fortunate, but some people in the world are really hurting for help.

McKenzie Lorenz, Grade 4, East Elementary School, 2010

Bob and Sally Morse

As many of you know, Bob and Sally have moved from their patio home at Twin Towers to the 'main building.' Bob is in an assisted-living unit in their Memory Support wing. Sally is in a newly-remodeled independent-living apartment in the Greeno wing. Her new mailing address is 5204 So. Ridge Dr., Cincinnati, OH, 45224. She will keep the same phone number – 513-853-2038. I'm sure she'd appreciate a phone call as she adjusts to her new digs.

Thanks from Vivian

To all the people who prayed (and continue to pray) for me during my recent surgery, I believe those prayers were the root of a small miracle! Between the time of diagnosis and excision-- about 3 months-- the malignancy shrank. I am now healing more quickly than anticipated and expect to incorporate only simple post-op treatments into my summer activities. So I say, "Thank you, thank you, thank you! God is good."

Vivian S. Templin

Fr. David on Vacation

Fr. David will be on vacation from August 7 until August 30. During Fr. David's absence, Fr. Angelo Puopolo (currently serving as interim at St. James) will be available for any pastoral emergencies. Fr. Angelo can be reached on his cell phone (236-2324). All other parish business should be referred to either the Sr. Warden (Lisa Elmendorf) or the Jr. Warden (Don Welti).

August Worship

On August 8, Don Welti and Sharon Franklin will lead Morning Prayer at both services. As many of you know, Morning Prayer was the main Sunday worship service in most Episcopal congregations until the issuance of the "new" Book of Common Prayer in 1979. Don and Sharon have recently completed the required training to lead Sunday Morning Prayer at St. Stephen's. Don and Sharon are licensed as Worship Leaders by the Bishop.

On August 15, 22 and 29, Fr. Ed Payne will be the celebrant and preacher at both services. Fr. Ed is an accomplished singer and musician. He has performed with the Metropolitan Opera and been part of the teaching faculty for the music programs at Wright State and Ohio University. Be prepared for inspiring messages delivered with a rich baritone voice!

Louis Hales - Rest in Peace

As many of you know, Louis suffered a massive stroke on April 24. Although there was some initial hope for recovery, by early June it was evident that Louis would not long survive the stroke. Louis was gathered to our Lord on June 16, with Bebe by his side.

Louis' remains have been cremated, and there will be an interment in North Carolina at a later date. We will hold a celebration of Louis' life on Monday, July 19 at St. Stephen's. The celebration will begin at 11:00 AM, with a reception to follow. Please keep Bebe, their children Stewart, Stan and Bonner, and all of their families and friends in your prayers.

Transitions

We have recently had two parish couples transfer to other congregations. Rex Van Alstine and Duane Lewis have transferred to Calvary Episcopal Church in Clifton, while Ed and Amy Cook have transferred to All Saints Episcopal Church in Chevy Chase, MD. We will miss them, but they leave with our prayers and blessings!

Dohn Family Annual Mission Report

We are completing ten years in the Dominican Republic. We offer as our annual report for 2009 a short compendium of several things we have learned or concepts that have been reinforced over the years.

Quality is as important as quantity.

While it is gratifying to see growth (more communities with health promotion programs, more patients seen at the Clinic, more services added, etc.), it is mostly being able to do a good job in the ministry to which we have been called (and of course the personal relationships) that keep us going.



Everything looks easier than it is.

We launched our website a year ago (www.DohnFamily.org). During the 52 weeks in 2009, we made only 28 postings on the 'Picture of the Week' page. Not exactly weekly, huh? While taking some effort, the website has really been fairly easy to maintain.

We can be life-long learners.

We have certainly become more proficient and better at our activities here through a combination of continuing acculturation, new knowledge, and experience. Along the lines of "new knowledge," we both fulfilled qualifications last June for a Diploma degree in Public Health.

Life is more interesting if you have a short memory span.

We are surprised each time by the sheer volume of mud produced in the dirt streets here after a heavy rainfall.

God is in the whole mix.

Being involved almost exclusively with social ministry, we are sometimes asked what we are doing as far as spiritual ministry/care and evangelism. We have trouble answering those questions because it is all mixed together for us. For example, within the health ministry of the Episcopal Church here, we have seen people getting cured; people, families and communities getting healthier; people awakening their spiritual side, accepting Christ, and joining churches; people without hope or self-value finding it; Christians finding their vocation within the Church; Christians finding their vocation in the secular world; and people with political and religious differences finding common ground in ministry.

The Challenge Ahead in 2010

Our faithful mission supporters through the years have sustained us with prayer and contributions. However, our funding is less certain now than in the past. As new missionaries, our SAMS mission account received many contributions. However, over the years the support has tended to drop-off, even as we have become better and more effective missionaries. Something of a paradox (perhaps not surprising; after all, we are a 'pair-o-docs'). Seriously, our SAMS account will probably be sufficient to keep us in the field through 2010. We will need to find new or increased support if we are correct in the discernment that our mission is to continue here.

In Christ,
Anita & Michael Dohn



Bob and Janet Curley	July 6
Ed and Sally Umbach	July 21
David and Molly Bailey	August 16
Mike and Nancy McCarthy	August 21
Duane and Shirley Dillon	August 22
Tim and Elizabeth Scholz	August 25
Jim and Virgie Peffer	August 28
Jack and Marie Muncaster	August 30



Vida Day	July 1	Louise Selden	August 7
Nancy Kuhrt	July 7	Sally Umbach	August 9
Neil Billman	July 10	Jack Muncaster	August 9
Linda Baker	July 13	George Lemich	August 12
Steve Skiba	July 15	Lisa Sullivan	August 12
Verneice Magruder	July 15	Nancy Healy	August 12
Doug Henry	July 17	Rick Meyers	August 16
Sharon Franklin	July 20	Ginny Bailey	August 16
Ed Umbach	July 20	Michael Scholz	August 18
Corinne Zarate	July 30	Timothy Duncan	August 20

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Address Correction Requested