



The Courier

Worshipping God, Learning Compassion, Building Community.

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August 2007

More on A New Thing

“Stewardship isn’t the Episcopal word for fundraising.” We are re-defining what stewardship means to us here at St. Paul’s Cathedral this year, with the help of a great resource edited by Thomas Gossen. His quote above makes me laugh and also expands my understanding of stewardship. Gossen reminds us that as stewards, we are called upon to manage something that belongs to someone else. We are custodians of all the gifts that God has bestowed upon us as individuals and a community of faith, not just money. The Vestry and Stewardship Committee are exercising our call to leadership and stewardship this summer as we review Gossen’s manual for stewardship development and draft a plan for year-round stewardship at St. Paul’s Cathedral.

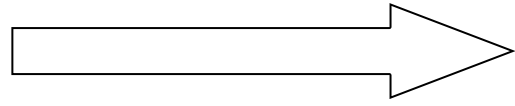
Our draft plan follows a rhythm or cycle of four natural focal points for year-round stewardship. Stewardship of time is the focus as we begin the new year (January); stewardship of creation is the focus around Arbor Day and Earth Day (May); stewardship of talent is the focus around Labor Day (September); and stewardship of finances is the focus before Advent (October/November).

The cornerstone of our year-round stewardship program for this year is developing a book this summer that celebrates our mission and ministry together at St. Paul’s. Some scriptural references to God’s call to us as stewards will be listed in our book. Our book will incorporate photos and a bit of text describing our mission and some of the activities that brought us together around that mission over the past year. For example, our book will include pages on: worship (traditional Sunday morning liturgy, ordinations, jazz Eucharists, U-2-Charists); education (Sunday school, organ seminar at tea, summer programs); service (mission trips, Samaritan Center, CROP walk, Millennium Development Goal dinners); and stewardship of our equipment and facilities (computer upgrade for the office, parish work days). Our book will also include some text and charts about financial giving patterns at the Cathedral, the Diocese, and the national church.

“Why spend our time, talent, and resources this summer preparing our book?”, you might ask. Our plan is to recruit the Vestry and a team of captains who will manage the process of passing copies of our book to each member of our congregation for a few days in October. We will ask each member to take thirty minutes to review our book when it arrives. We suggest that you then read one or more of the scriptures, pray about God’s call to you to you as a cheerful giver, and fill out your pledge card. Personally, I suggest that you sleep on your decision. If you can’t seal your pledge card in the envelope provided with a smile on your face as a joyful giver, revise your pledge. When you seal your pledge, simply put the envelope in the pocket of our book and pass it along to the next St. Paul’s member on the list. The team captains for each copy of our book will ensure that each member has the opportunity to participate in this important phase of our year-round stewardship program.

I hope that the Spirit moves you to submit photos for our book and to join us in planning and implementing this and future phases of our year-round stewardship program. Please contact Dean Tom or any of the committee members (Peg Coleman, John Shaffer, Marion Greenhough, and Pete Jones) to learn more about how you can participate.

August



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

			1 Fun in the City Summer Camp	
5	6	7	8 Fun in the City Summer Camp	
12	13 The Dean Returns	14 Vestry	15 Fun in the City Summer Camp	
19	20	21	22	
26 Fund Raiser Committee following 9:30	27	28	29	

You have saved the date, now what?

By Betsy Elkins, scribe for the fund raiser committee

It's on your calendar, fund raiser for St. Paul's Friday night October 19, now what do you do? Pitch in and offer to help so this will be another successful night for St. Paul's financially and otherwise! Here are some things you can do to help:

Contribute Auction Items. This is the part of the evening that makes the most money for your cathedral parish. We are looking this year for contributions valued at \$20 or more. Here are some of the more popular items from the past:

- o Gift Certificates. You can contribute them yourself or ask your favorite merchants to donate them.
- o Baskets of related items such as wine and snack foods, picnic supplies, hair products, etc. Some folks have enjoyed putting these together themselves; others have obtained these as contributions from area vendors.
- o Hand made items such as knitted sweaters and scarves. Donate your creative works.
- o Tickets! Can't use some of your theater or symphony tickets? Donate them for the auction.
- o New gift items you don't need or want. Did you receive a nice gift last year for your birthday that doesn't suit you? Donate that lovely silver bowl to the auction.

In kind gifts. Are you a gourmet cook or do you have some skill you can teach others or a service you can offer? Offer your meal or lessons or service as an auction item.

- Sign up to help before the event or during that evening. We need many folks to volunteer. Sign up sheets for specific tasks, on which you can indicate your choices, will be available very soon. A clear job description and training will be available for tasks such as these:
 - o Silent auction coordination. Doreen Todorov, chair of the event, will help. There are many tasks involved in the running of the auction.
 - o Food preparation and serving. Carol Decker is again in charge of the fabulous meal we will enjoy during the evening.
 - o Bartenders. George and Marcia Anderson will coordinate the part of the evening.
 - o Check out people to receive money at the end of the auction. Jim Pecoy will be the event treasurer.
 - o Decorations. Gelene Lewis is chairing this effort.

Administrative tasks such as publicity, reservations, acknowledgement of silent auction gifts and other support for the event.

Help with the Planning of the Fund raiser! The next planning meeting is Sunday August 26, following the 9:30 service. Anyone interested is invited to join us.

The Bulletin Board Cathedral News



GREAT GAME, GREAT FIREWORKS, GREAT FUN-----despite vacations and other conflicts, 138 fans turned out to see Bishop Adams throw out the first pitch (an argument could be made that it was a high strike), the Binghamton METS win an exciting game, and the usual great fireworks after the game, with some new creative displays added this year.



A team autographed ball along with a check for \$100 for the Bishop's Discretionary Fund was presented to Bishop Adams before the game. We are grateful to Bishop and Mrs. Adams for sharing their vacation with us, and for continuing this summer tradition. Our thanks to those who supported this event, and to the following churches who participated: All Saints, Johnson City; Christ Church, Binghamton; Emmanuel, Elmira; Emmanuel, Norwich; Grace, Cortland; St. John's, Ithaca; St. Paul's, Endicott; Trinity, Binghamton; Zion, Greene.

Birthday's in August

Samuel Handler	2nd
Laurel Weekley	5th
Nancy Ridings	6th
Judy Morris	7th
Robert Webb	8th
Donald Carlson	10th
Jane Enos	10th
Julia Pilant	15th
David Aitken	17th
Barbara Traub	17th
Jeanne Avery	18th
Ryan Baxter	18th
Jonathan Howell	18th
Lorelee Wilson	18th
Martin Britschge	20th
Elinor Antoni	21st
Ian Baxter	26th
Patrick Buecheler	28th
David Morgan	28th
Debbie Nettle	28th

VESTRY NOTES FOR THE COURIER

Highlights from the Vestry Meeting held on Tuesday, July 10, 2007.

Buildings & Grounds: No decision was made yet on lightning protection because of the high cost of the work involved. The committee is waiting for estimates from electricians on surge protection which would lessen the risk of future damage.

Nominating Committee: The Vestry accepted the proposal that Laurie Beth Pestle, outgoing Senior Warden, will chair the Nominating Committee.

By-Laws Committee: Vince Balderrama has agreed to be Chair, and this was accepted by the Vestry. This committee will revise the Cathedral By-Laws, and it is hoped that these will be ready for the Annual General Meeting in January 2008.

Worship Committee: The open meeting held on Tuesday, June 26 was discussed. A letter will go out to all parishioners asking which service they will attend in the fall, and what duties they are willing to undertake at each service.

Arts and Crafts Festival 2007: Thanks to Betsy Elkins, Laurie Sanderson and other volunteers, the Cathedral was open to the public for worship and a quiet place to relax during the downtown Festival. It was agreed that the effort was well worth while and plans will be made to repeat this again next year.

The next Vestry Meeting will take place on Tuesday, August 14, 2007, at 5:15PM.

Respectfully submitted by Wendy Hoblyn Jones Clerk to the Vestry



Worship for All of God's People

At the recent Vestry, Staff and Leadership Retreat we were led by Canon Karen Lewis of the diocese in a process which had the goal of arriving at our strategic focus for the coming year. After many hours, and many good conversations and ideas, we came to the conclusion that our focus for the coming year is to develop a greater variety of liturgy and music on a weekly basis at **St. Paul's Cathedral**. **The Children's Enrichment Committee, the Choir (through Jim Potts and Vestry Members Betsy Elkins and Bill Pitcher)** and the Buildings and Grounds Committee have participated in this process. Further, everyone in the Cathedral parish was invited to participate in this process on April 22nd when we shared with the Diocese in the Discovery Process by **interviewing each other about our hopes and dreams for St. Paul's Cathedral**. We also found that when we compared statistics our summer attendance is better when we have three services on Sunday morning rather than two. Based on all of this the Vestry charged the Worship Committee to develop a new service or services that reflect this greater diversity and desire to grow by developing new congregations.

As a result the following schedule has been adopted and will continue for the 2007-2008 school year.

SUMMER, JUNE 10-SEPTEMBER 2, 2007

8:00 a.m., Meditative Holy Communion

9:30 a.m., Holy Communion with Hymns

12:30 p.m., Morning Prayer in Dinka with African Singing and Drums

FALL, 2007

8:00 a.m., Meditative Holy Communion

A quiet liturgy of lessons, prayers and Holy Communion

9:30 a.m., Come As You Are Mass

An innovative liturgy for people of all ages using a variety of musical styles.

10:00 a.m., Cathedral Choir Rehearsal

10:15 a.m., Christian Formation for all ages

Classes for Adults and Children that not only Inform but Transform

10:45 a.m., Youth Choir Rehearsal

11:00 a.m., Choral Mass

A traditional liturgy with hymns and the St. Paul's Cathedral Choir

12:30 p.m., Morning Prayer in Dinka with African Singing and Drums

5:00 p.m., Evening Prayer with a variety of musical styles

Fifth Sunday of a month with 5 weeks, One Liturgy at 10:00 am

2007

Thu

Fri

Sat

2	3	4
9	10	11
16 9:30 am Worship Committee for 9:30 service	17	18
23	24	25
30	31 Greiner/Freeman Wedding	

Fun In The City is in its 4th season.

*Camp is full. The children from Burma have
arrived within the last 45 days.*

*The extent of their English is a great big beautiful
"HI".*

It truly warms your heart.

*These children will join the Liberian children
that we tutor plus four families from the Sudan.*

*Please pray for us as we gather
each Wednesday for three weeks.*

*You have done a wonderful job in the previous years
in praying for beautiful weather- please continue.*

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