

The St. John's Newsletter

St. John's Episcopal Church 254-803-3800 Marlin, Texas August 2007

We are a church community rooted in Anglican traditions and committed to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ through faith, prayer, compassion, and encouragement.

O be joyful in the Lord all ye lands;
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God;
it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving
and into his courts with praise;
be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious;
His mercy is everlasting;
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Psalm 100

St. John's Leadership

Vestry:

Senior Warden, Mike Meyer

Junior Warden, Troy Henderson

Clerk/Treasurer, Cathy Phillips

Polly Gaeke

Bobby Peterson

Joe Owen

Rector: The Rev. Judy Filer

Minister of Music: Sue Visser

Parish Administrator: Cathy Phillips

Altar Guild Chair: Louise Burton

Altar Flowers Chair: Polly Gaeke

Special Events: Libby Price, Pattie Bosnack, Gary Smith

MEMORIALS

Anyone wishing to make a memorial should contact Jean Trice, chairperson in charge of memorials. Telephone number is 883-2611.

ALTAR FLOWERS

August 5 — Howard Lee & Pat Smith

August 12 — Mark & Sherri Patterson

August 19 — Cathy Phillips

August 26 — Judy & Wes Filer

If you want to request flowers for St. John's altar, contact Polly Gaeke, chairperson, phone number 584-4464.

ST. JOHN'S CHOIR NEWS

There are St. John's throws still available if anyone would like to purchase one for \$35. Please contact Sue Visser.

The Choir is enjoying their summer sabbatical. Remember, choir practice will resume September 4, 2007.

CURSILLO

If you are interested in attending a Cursillo weekend, please contact either Polly Geake (584-4464) or Kyla Smith (584-2461). Applications to attend Cursillo can be obtained on the Diocesan Cursillo website at www.texascursillo.org.

The Episcopal Cursillo Leaders Workshop will be held at Camp Capers on September 28-30, 2007. A Convocational Cursillo Christmas party will be held in December. The date and location will be announced at a later date.

2007 CURSILLO WEEKENDS

August 2-5, 2007

November 1-4, 2007 (campsite)

SAFEGUARDING GOD'S CHILDREN

IMPORTANT! PLEASE READ!

Safeguarding God's Children: Dear Ones, On August 12th a most important program will be presented at St. John's following the church service. It covers a difficult topic, but in today's world, we need all be vigilant to protect our children. EVERYONE in the parish is requested to attend the first part of the program on August 12th. We will break for lunch. Then those who wish to work with the nursery or children's Sunday School must stay for the second part of the training. In addition, if you wish to work in the children's program, you must get your name to Cathy because you must be pre-registered with the Diocese. Background checks are required. PLEASE UNDERSTAND. If you do not have this clearance and this training, you will not be able to even assist with the children. These Diocesan and national rules are set in stone, and we cannot circumvent them. Please don't hesitate to call me or talk with me if you want further explanation. It is difficult to get the training scheduled, so please be sure and come! And if you know of anyone we might ever want to hire as a nursery worker, we should contact them now. Because anyone who works in the nursery or children's program must be certified. Thank you for your help. Judy

ST. JOHN'S WEBSITE

Our website is up and running! Please check our website at www.stjohnsmarlin.org to see our work in progress. The newsletter and the calendar for lay readers are on the website. Please check often for upcoming events.

EMAIL UPDATES

Email updates to parishioners about what is happening in the parish will begin going out weekly and emergency emails go out more often (i.e., if someone becomes ill). If you do not receive these and would like to, please call the church office, or email stjohnsepiscopal514@sbcglobal.net **AND** jwfiler@aol.com. Please put the words "email update" in the subject line and you will be included in the list.

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Daughters of the King is a religious order of lay people who offer prayer ministry for the church. Their work is quiet but essential to the church. They complete training on establishing a rule of life and wear their pins as a sign of their pledged work with this order. We at St. John's are in the

process of trying to reconvene our chapter. If you are interested in this ministry, there is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall for those interested in taking the training classes. After taking the training, one can decide whether or not to take the vows to become a Daughter of the King.

COFFEE HOSTESS

August 5 – Cathy Phillips

August 12 – Sherri Patterson

August 19 – Polly Gaeke

August 26 – Libby Price, Pattie
Bosnack & Gary Smith

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS:

August 9 Krista Webb

August 18 Charlotte Cox

August 24 Kay Evans

August 26 Colt Ferda

August 31 Jean Trice

You are cordially invited

to brunch on Sunday, August 26th

in celebration of all parish August birthdays and anniversaries.

Please join us following the regular Sunday service for wonderful food and fun in the Parish Hall, St. John's Episcopal Church.

LITTLE CHURCH CLUB

The Little Church Club met July 22 and 23. Joe Owen, Pam Williams and Cathy Phillips attended. Bishop High discussed the Revised Common Lectionary. There are some pamphlets on the "Reading Table" that further discuss the changes. Rev. Bob Wells gave a presentation Monday on the Community of Hope. It was very good to see so many people from various small churches through the Diocese. The next meeting of the Little Church Club will be held November 11-12.

FOOD FOR AUGUST: Salvation Army Canned Goods; Macaroni & Cheese; Peanut Butter & Jelly, Rice; Beans

Please remember to bring these items to put in the food baskets. Let's help restock their food shelves.

"For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat . . ." Matthew 25:35

MEMORY WALK:

The Alzheimer's Association Memory Walker 2007 will be held in Waco on Saturday, September 8th. Tribute Flags may be purchased for \$10. A tribute flag bears the name of a person someone wishes to remember and honor. Once a flag is inscribed, it will travel across North Central Texas to be displayed at each Memory Walk location, year after year, paying tribute to the cherished life it represents. Information regarding the Memory Walk and Tribute Flags is located in the Parish Hall.

NEEDED ITEMS:

When you empty your egg cartons, please bring them to the church and leave them in the Parish Hall. Bobby and Antoinette Peterson need them. Thank you.

RALLY DAY:

St. John's Rally Day, Parish Picnic and Parish Photograph will be held on Sunday, September 9. L&S Studios will take the Parish photograph.

MARLIN POLICE NATIONAL NIGHT OUT (DO YOU WANT TO PLAY VOLLEYBALL?)

National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 7th beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Courthouse Square. There will be a bicycle parade from Wal-Mart to the Square at 5:30. There will be hamburgers, hot dogs and various activities throughout the evening.

There is also a volleyball tournament among the churches. A team consists of 6 persons, 2 of whom must be female. If you want to gather a team, contact the church office.

MARLIN VFD FISH FRY!

The Marlin Volunteer Fire Department is hosting their annual Fish Fry on August 5, 2007, 11:00-1:00. The cost of each dinner is \$7.00. Let's pick up our fish dinners after Sunday service and meet back at the church for food and fellowship.

IN THE NEWS:

"Aesop's Surprise" will be showing August 24-25 at 7:00 p.m., at the Palace Theater. Tickets are \$8 per adult and \$6 for children 12 and under.

A group of Falls County residents is planning a visit to Yanni's Restaurant, an authentic Greek restaurant, located just north of West, on August 9, 2007. If you are interested in attending, please see the flyer posted in the Parish Hall or contact Pate Adams at 883-1410 for more information.

The St. James House Annual Silver Tea will be held on Wednesday, October 17, 2007, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Coselli, 3942 Del Monte, Houston, Texas. Please see notice posted in the Parish Hall.

Vintage Style Show "Somewhere in Time: After 5" and luncheon buffet September 22 at 11:00 a.m. Tickets are \$15; no tickets sold at door; contact Pat Smith at 883-2084.

From the minutes of the vestry meeting on July 18, 2007

Senior Warden's Report: Joe Owen and Gary Smith have organized and prepared an inventory of the kitchen, and will help with the inventory of the church. The construction of a fence area to conceal the garbage cans at the back door was discussed.

Troy Henderson will complete the work in the men's bathroom and will complete the building of the replacement drawers in the kitchen. The cabinet will be moved into the boiler room for storage.

Outreach: Working for Christ had 115 volunteers and worked on 31 houses. There were 24 people who attended the discussion on Alzheimer's led at the church by Howard Gruetzner on July 21st. Labels are being prepared for the paper bags which will be used for food collection. St. John's agreed to provide in-kind donations of sandwiches, mentoring, tutoring and/or job skills for the YouthBuild project.

Christian Education: The Rector will give a class on the Book of Common Prayer beginning in September.

Rally Day, Parish Photo, Banners and Parish Picnic: See article in newsletter.

Children's Sunday School Room and Choir Room: A discussion was held regarding clean up of the children's Sunday School room and moving the choir into the old Bishop's office.

Stewardship: Mike Meyer, Mark Patterson and Sherri Patterson will head the Stewardship Committee and attend the Transformative Stewardship on August 10 and 11 at Camp Allen.

Advertising: Research is continuing into running an ad for a year in the *Marlin Democrat*. A suggestion was made about also running the ad in the Rosebud paper which is owned by the same company. The radio spot prepared by Bobby Peterson has been approved. Someone has generously offered to pay for the radio spot.

Men's Association: It was agreed, that the men's association be formed for the purpose of fellowship and meet at 6:00 p.m. on the last Thursday of each month beginning in September.

Clean-Up Day at the Church: The brush and wood pile had been removed; Rufus Martinez has been power washing the church. The broken kneeler in the church was repaired by Richard Young. A new lectern light was ordered, and Troy Henderson advised that the light could be adjusted to fit.

Photographs of Bishops: Cathy Phillips is gathering photographs of Bishop Wimberly and the Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori for the Bishops' Parlor.

Excessive Utility Bills: A discussion was held on keeping the costs of the utility bills from being so excessive. The past two electric bills were extremely high.

The next vestry meeting was set for Wednesday, August 15, 2007, at 6:00 p.m.

Jordan Gorraiz has been deployed to Afghanistan. Jordan is the son of Krista Webb and grandson of Clarie Hoelscher.

Let us pray for Jordan and for all who are currently serving and who have served in our country's armed forces:

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

FAVORITE HYMNS

Sophia Henderson—*All Things Bright and Beautiful*

Cathy Phillips—*Be Thou My Vision*

Rev. Judy Filer—*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

Do you have a favorite hymn? Please contact Sue Visser or Cathy in the church office and let us know. Then Sue will be able to incorporate some of your favorite hymns into our service.

FAVORITE PRAYER

Do you have a favorite prayer from the Book of Common Prayer? Please contact the church office with the information. We will be printing these in the newsletter.

Rev. Judy Filer—General Thanksgiving Prayer from Morning Prayer I, BCP 58:

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen*

ENTERED INTO LIFE ETERNAL:

Walter Glockzin; Mary Alison Hill; Emily James; Carlos Salvato; Erna Mae Neumann

We offer our deepest sympathy and prayers to family and friends.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servants and grant them an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

WHY GO TO CHURCH?

A churchgoer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. “I’ve gone for 30 years now,” he wrote, “and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can’t remember a single one of them. So, I think I’m wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all.”

This started a real controversy in the “Letters to the Editor” column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

“I’ve been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this. They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!

Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!”

SUMMER CHALLENGE:

As you will recall, there have been two challenges to everyone in the congregation this summer.

The first is to try a different type of Christian outreach this summer. It can be a one time project or

ongoing. What type of project? Remember scripture: for the hungry, the homeless, the new in town, the ill, those in prison, any outreach you can think of. Scripture also urges us to love one another so that “they may know we are Christians by our love . . .” Any outreach project will do. Take the challenge and let the office know what you did and what you learned.

The second challenge was to take this “ordinary” time as a time of growth of spirit. Take quiet time each day to relax and sit in God’s presence. If distracting thoughts come, bless them and release them to God. This is a daily process and over time, will make a difference in your life. Let the office know how this challenge goes.

Cathy’s Corner:

This month has been busy, but very productive. The new computer accounting program is great, and I want to thank everyone for their help in giving me the time I needed to input all the financial data into the computer.

I enjoyed Little Church Club, and it was nice to meet and share ideas with others who also face the same challenges that we do at St. John’s.

Gary Smith, Pattie Bosnack and Joe Owen have been busily working to organize the kitchen and conduct inventory. They have transformed a kitchen that had become disorganized into an organized wonder for anyone who has to spend time preparing food. Thank you so much for all your hard work!

Troy Henderson has been busy reconstructing kitchen drawers, creating a large closet for choir robes and doing many projects throughout the church. What a blessing to have Troy as a member of St. John’s.

As the inventory progresses, the books which were in the Bishop’s office will be listed and moved into the Activity Room to provide a reading library for St. John’s members.

The office will be closed August 9th and 10th as Judy and I will be attending the Willow Creek Leadership Summit in Waco.

If you need to contact me, you can reach me at the church office, 803-3800, on my cell phone, 716-6851, or at home, 803-3515. My regular hours at the church are Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Sundays.

Please note that the Rev. Judy Filer’s days in the church office are Wednesdays and Sundays. Also, please note her cell phone number (254) 722-2013.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please remember: The deadline for newsletter submissions is the 25th of each month. In the shorter months, this is very critical. Also, if you have any information or articles you would like to share in the newsletter, please drop them off at the office, place them in the basket in the Parish Hall, or email them for consideration. Thank you!