



The St. John's Newsletter

St. John's Episcopal Church 254-803-3800 Marlin, Texas www.stjohnsmarlin.org May 2008

St. John's is blessed by the renovation of the Nursery. We now have a wonderful area for our children. We particularly want to thank Pam Williams, Molly Walker and Sam Bosnack for their labors of love on this project. A great deal of research and thought went into the completion of these rooms. During its development, several concerns were raised by various parishioners. Molly Walker has addressed these in the following article.

Nursery Q and A

The majority of comments about the Nursery have been complimentary and favorable. There have been questions and concerns about the Nursery Project. The following Question and Answer format will address those questions and concerns.

Why was a new baby bed purchased? Why not just use the old one we had?

The new baby bed was purchased because the older bed was not safe. Safety is a priority for the Diocese of Texas and for our vestry.

Who chose the color for the walls in the Nursery?

There were many opinions about what color the walls should be painted. Since Sam Bosnack painted the Mural, he was asked to select the paint color. A neutral color was selected so that the Mural would be the focus of the room. Also, muted earth tones tend to have a calming effect on children and adults.

Why are we spending so much money on the Nursery? There are only 3 children that attend church regularly.

\$2,500.00 was given to the Church to refurbish and set up a Nursery program. The Ministry of the Church Nursery, (The Diocese of Texas) states the following: *"We are called as the church to receive, nurture and treasure each child as a gift from God and to give high priority to the quality of planning for children and the preparation and support of those who minister with them. The Diocese of Texas values and honors our children. Christian formation begins in the earliest stages of childhood. We owe the youngest members of our family the best we can offer."*

Hopefully the nursery program will grow, but even if it doesn't surely these three children deserve a nursery program.

If you have taken "Safeguarding God's Children," a requirement before working with children in the Episcopal Church, please consider volunteering to work in the Nursery. The current schedule for the Safeguarding God's Children Training is posted on the bulletin board in the parish hall. You may choose to work a certain Sunday each month, or sign up to work occasionally on an as-needed basis. (*Editor's Note: The more of us who sign up, the fewer times we each will work.*)

Molly Walker

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

ALTAR FLOWERS

May 4 – Mike Meyer
May 11 – vacant
May 18 – Kyla Smith
May 25 – Cathy Phillips

2008 Open Dates for Altar Flowers:

The following dates are open if you wish to contribute altar flowers:

May 11
June 1
August 10 and 24
October 26

Please call Polly Gaeke at (254) 584-4464 to reserve any of these dates.

MEMORIALS

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



COFFEE

HOSTESS

May 4 – Cathy Phillips
May 11 – Marge Schumann
May 18 – Pat Smith
May 25 — Libby Price and Pattie Bosnack



MAY BIRTHDAYS:

May 1 – Ryleigh Peterson
May 3 – Daniel Tatum
May 4 – Pattie Bosnack
May 4 – Alice Madsen
May 16 – Tommy Goodrich
May 21 – Kyla Smith
May 22 – Isaiah Sedillo
May 23 – Cindy Cox

“Grant, O Lord, that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Amen

You are cordially invited to celebrate all parish May birthdays and anniversaries on Sunday, May 25th. Please join us following the regular Sunday service for wonderful food and fun in the Parish Hall, St. John’s Episcopal Church.

ST. JOHN’S MEN’S ASSOCIATION

The St. John’s Men’s Association will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 29th at St. John’s Parish Hall.

The menu will be tacos with all the fixings. Come join in the fellowship!



ST. JOHN’S WEB SITE

Have you checked out St. John’s web site? If not, go to www.stjohnsmarlin.org. We are continually working to provide a more informative and exciting web site for our congregation, as well as others searching the web or searching for a church home. We will be updating the web site at least monthly and have begun adding photographs of special events and life at St. John’s. If you have any ideas, send

them to the church office. Check it out – you won’t be disappointed!



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 texascursillo.org.

2008 CURSILLO WEEKENDS

June 19-22, 2008
August 7-10, 2008
November 6-9, 2008(campsite)



Lenten Study

The final session on *What’s So Amazing About Grace?* will be Sunday, May 4th.

Session 10: May 4, Kyla Smith-facilitator, Chapters 19-20, pages 253-282



The first Daughters of the King training session will be held on Saturday, May 17 at 11:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Mary Price, Diana Miles, Molly Walker and Weezie Burton will be the co-leaders for the training sessions. If you are interested in

attending the Daughters of the King training, please contact either Mary, Molly or Weezie.

Bishop Coadjutor Walkabout and Election

Walkabouts are scheduled to meet the nominees for Bishop Coadjutor on May 7th in Austin, May 8th in Tyler and May 10th in Houston. The election will take place at a special session of the 159th Council, May 24, at Christ Church Cathedral. Please include this prayer, or one of your choosing, daily in your prayers.

“Gracious God, you call the church to witness to your Kingdom revealed through Jesus Christ: Send your Holy Spirit to guide into unity the hearts and minds of the people who will be electing the next Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, that our diocese might be led by a person of your own choosing, who will help us ever more become the people and Church you have created us to be—a people who witness to the Kingdom of God boldly, minister unselfishly, and worship joyfully. All this we pray in the name of our Master Teacher, Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*”



In order to better serve the

constituents of the 31st District, the caseworkers of Congressman John Carter’s office will be traveling to Marlin on Wednesday, May 7, 2008, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon. They will set up a local office at the Workforce Commission Office, 230 Coleman Street. During these hours, constituents can ask questions about services Congressman Carter offers or seek help with problems dealing with federal agencies.

Howard Gruetzner, Chairman of the Alzheimer’s Association for this area, will be going to the Public Policy Forum in Washington, D.C., May 12, 13 and 14. On the last day of the forum, he will visit with Texas legislators and/or their staffers. He would like to take with him as many letters as possible from persons in the area which he covers. With more letters he has a better chance to get some attention to the many faces and needs of Alzheimer’s disease – from diagnosis and treatment to caregiver needs and support services, as well as the huge need for more aggressive and better funded Alzheimer’s and other dementia research. Just click on the website address www.alz.kintera.org/virtualvisit and post your comments and concerns. The website also offers information and statistics regarding Alzheimer’s, such as Texas ranks as 2nd in the nation for

deaths attributed to Alzheimer’s. Please pass this information on to others you know who may be a caregiver for someone with Alzheimer’s or other dementia.



May 11

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 11th is Mother’s Day. “Her children arise and call her blessed . . .”
Proverbs 31:28



Faith, Hope & Charity is still in need of mentors for children who have a parent incarcerated in prison. There are several young boys who need mentors. The rules require that only men can mentor a young boy, and there is a real shortage of men willing to be a mentor.

If you would like more information concerning the mentoring program, please contact Shirley King at 883-3004.

BLUE SUNDAY

At St. John’s, we responded to the request for Blue Sunday on April 27, 2008, sent to us by the Department of Family Protective Services. Blue Sunday is the national day of prayer for child abuse and neglect and

is usually the last Sunday in April.

The Diocese of Texas mandates that anyone working with children in an Episcopal Church must have received Safeguarding God's Children training. Meg Barrett was our trainer last year. She sent us some further information on child abuse. By the time the day is over, more than four children in the United States will die as a result of child abuse. Texas CPS, child protective services, reports that in 2005, 1197 alleged victims of child abuse occurred in Coryell County, 40 children were removed from their homes and one child died as a result of abuse. In 2007 CPS received over 240,688 reports of child abuse or neglect, more than 71,344 children were known to be confirmed victims of abuse and neglect, and more than 34,000 children were in foster care.

What can we do? We can protect one child at a time. If we can change one life, together with others who are concerned, we can make a difference in a generation of children. The Texas Child Abuse Hotline is 1-899-252-5400.

Thank You, St John's

Your cards, phone calls, emails and heartfelt hugs have comforted us in the loss of our precious "Mom Taylor." She loved her Lord, her family and all her

friends. We miss her dearly, but heaven has a new saint, and we are at peace knowing she is at peace.

Polly Gaeke and Family



MAY 26 MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 26th, is Memorial Day. It was formerly known as Decoration Day and is a holiday which commemorates U.S. men and women who have died in military service to their country. Take this day to remember a veteran who died in the service of our country, and also to thank those brave men and women who are currently serving the U.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* (BCP, p. 823)



FOOD

FOR MAY:

Please bring either pasta and spaghetti sauce or macaroni and cheese for our outreach ministry to the Salvation Army.

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

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!

ENTERED INTO LIFE ETERNAL:

Treacy Burch

May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. We offer our deepest sympathy and prayers to family and friends.

Those for Whom our Prayers are Requested:

Gary Evans, Alice Ferda, Horace Goodrich, Candace Hill, Alice Madsen, Archie Lee Maguire, Ronnie Oltorf, Steve Price, Joe Roppolo, Te Andria Mason, Louise Rozario, Connie McLelland, Alyssa Hudler, Merrit Schumann, Charissa Goodrich, Mel Rodgers, Kay Evans, Charlene Luedke,

Lionel Gleason, Helen and Adam Marsh, Nina Leeth, Shirley King, Pattie Bosnack, Betty Maxey, Anne and Cory Burrough, Willie Null, Paula Wade (Polly Gaeke's daughter), Brandon Henderson, Brittany Bates, Rob and Melissa Douglas, Vestal Cook, H.T. Torgerson, Tom Pulos, Tommy and Betty Goodrich, Dr. Harold and Margaret Clifton, Mena Nichols, Aiesha Spratling, Joanna Newnam, Mary Winters, Forest King, Marilee Painter, Joe Kurtz, Jo Phipps, Carol Lane, Judy Lloyd, Dick Lewis, Sam Bosnack, Leslie Franklin, Dawn Bates, Louis Polchinski, Lisa Hall, Dolores Grant, Falma Branch, George Bosnack, Gary Mason.

Cathy's Corner:

Rev. Filer will be in the office on the first, second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from 10:00-4:00 and on the third Wednesday of each month at 2:00 pm. You can also reach Judy at 254-776-4815 or 254-722-2013 or by email at jwfiler@aol.com.

I will be out of the office on Friday, May 2, attending a workshop in Waco. The church will close Thursday, May 8, at Noon for the Bishop Coadjutor Walkabout in Tyler. Also, the church will be closed on Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day.

In case you need to reach me

and I am not at the office, you can contact me at (254) 252-0971.

Leadership:

"Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle." *Plato*



HUMOR!

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!" His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?" The son replied, "I do know!" "Okay," said his father, "What does the Bible mean?" "That's easy, Daddy," the young boy replied excitedly. "It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.'"

Angels Explained by Children

I only know the names of two angels-Hark and Harold.

When an angel gets mad, he takes a deep breath and counts to ten. And when he lets out his breath, somewhere there's a tornado.

Angels live in cloud houses made by God and his son, who's a very good carpenter.

Church Signs

Forgive your enemies – it

messes with their heads.

Free coffee; everlasting life. Yes, membership has its privileges.

Wal-Mart is not the only saving place.

There are some questions that can't be answered by Google.