



# *The Vision* of The Episcopal Church of Our Saviour

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Church of Our Saviour—July, 2007

## How I Spent my Summer

By: Fr. Birch Rambo

*See that you never despise any of these little ones, for I tell you that their angels in heaven are continually in the presence of my Father in heaven.* Matt. 18:10

This summer for me is all about youth. I have just returned from a trip to Chicago with nine senior high youth. Beginning this coming Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> I will be at the Cathedral Domain as chaplain to the Diocese of Lexington's two mini-camps for rising 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. (It's not too late to get applications in for the older youth!) A week after I return I'll be helping with Vacation Bible School at St. Thomas. A week after VBS ends I'll be on vacation with my own youth, Micah and Lucas.

In the coming year, children and youth will be a focus of Our Saviour, just as they were a focus for our Savior. In the years I have been here, the young people of the parish have been terribly overlooked. The children's Sunday School class has consisted almost entirely of my own children and no classes have been offered for junior or senior high youth. The youth group we share with St. Thomas has been active, but few from Our Saviour attend. We have in many ways left stumbling blocks in front of our children and youth, and the millstone around my neck is becoming too heavy to bear.

The year to come will, I hope, bring many changes. We are in the process of organizing a Youth Sunday, on which the young people will take charge – choosing

the music, preaching the sermon, leading the liturgy (where they are permitted), serving as greeters, ushers, acolytes, and chalice bearers. Beginning with that service, I hope to involve at least one young person in some aspect of every Sunday morning.

We are also working on re-developing the Sunday School program to make it more attractive for our youth. Although plans are still in the development stages, we are hoping to offer different classes for different age groups. Some ideas include even sharing classes with St. Thomas to generate the 'critical mass' needed for a class to work well or offering a shortened version for younger children during the first part of the service ending before Communion. These are just a few of the ideas that have been raised.

We would love to hear other suggestions. What would it take to involve you or your children in the life of your church? How else can we remove the stumbling blocks that are keeping young people from being more involved? Youth are not the future of the Church, they ARE the church. It is time we saw the Body of Christ in the young as well as the old.

*Anyone who welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me.*  
Matt. 18:5

## Happy Independence Day!

July, 2007

### Food for thought

- *Now we all know what kind of car the apostles drove. It was a Honda, for "They were all in one Accord."*
- *If you think you are too small to be effective, you have never been to bed with a mosquito.*
- *Whether you think you can or think you can't, you are right.*
- *You only live once— but if you work it right, once is enough.*

### Inside this issue:

<i>Bits 'n Pieces</i>	2
<i>Financial report</i>	2
<i>UTO update</i>	2
<i>Serving in July</i>	3
<i>Birthdays &amp; anniversaries</i>	4
<i>Chicago Hope IX</i>	4

*Do we have record of your birthday and anniversary?*

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## Bits 'N Pieces

The **fellowship pot-luck** lunch after the morning service on July 8th will be picnic style. Bring your lawn chairs and yard games for a time of fellowship under the shade tree! A grill will be available, but only if you desire to cook out. Normal pot-luck type foods will be fine.

The **parish office** will be closed on July 4th, in observance of Independence Day.

**Men's breakfast** will be July 14th, 8:30AM

**Vacation Bible School** will be on July 8-12, Sunday—Thursday. The program will be at St. Thomas,

beginning with dinner for children and workers at 6PM. The actual program will begin at 6:30 and conclude each evening at 8:15PM. It's not too late to pre-register your children, grandchildren or neighbors! Just go to: [ranaystthomas@chpl.net](mailto:ranaystthomas@chpl.net) and list child's name, age, grade entering in the fall and any health concerns. There are several adults scheduled to help with VBS from Our Saviour: Fr. Birch, Grace S, Carol R, Melissa W. and Beverly W. Thank-you!

It's summer ~ many are out of town ~ don't forget your **tithe!**

### Financial Report ~ By: Laura Melius

<b>OPERATING FUNDS</b>		
5/31/2007	Checking Account Balance	\$ 10,723.06
5/31/2007	Reserves - Hilliard Lyons Investment Account*	<u>\$ 10,613.25</u>
	Sub-total	<b>\$ 21,336.31</b>
5/31/2007	<b>Accounts Payable &amp; Designated Payables 2007</b>	
	Designated - Youth Mission Trip	\$ 393.00
	Designated - Building Fund	\$ 2,157.82
	Designated - Youth	\$ 386.89
	Designated - Music	\$ 149.00
	Designated - Hispanic Ministry	\$ (249.13)
	Designated - Altar/Flowers	\$ 86.00
	Episcopal Relief & Development Fund	\$ 11.00
	ECW	\$ 30.00
	Men's Group	\$ 1,150.54
	Memorial Garden	\$ 100.00
	MacSwords Memorial Fund	\$ 1,400.00
	Sub-total	<b><u>\$ 5,615.12</u></b>
5/31/2007	<b>Net Operating Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 15,721.19</b>
<b>BUILDING FUND</b>		
5/31/2007	Hilliard Lyons Building Fund Account	\$ 12,650.96
12/31/2006	Endowment Fund at Diocese	<u>\$ 18,683.00</u>
	Building Fund Balance	<b>\$ 31,333.96</b>
	Loan From Diocese	<u>\$(180,000.00)</u>
5/31/2007	<b>Building Fund</b>	<b>\$(148,666.04)</b>

## United Thank Offering Answers Call By: Leslie Farris

The 2007 United Thank Offering grants responded to the call to “feed my sheep”, both physically and spiritually. The two largest grants will build a hospital in Pakistan and a church in Homer, Alaska. Other grants will help rebuild the Grace Day Care Center in New Orleans, severely damaged in Katrina; purchase a mini bus for St. George’s, in Baghdad, Iraq, enabling children to safely attend school now being held at the church because of the war damage; and purchase a former convenience store for use as a food pantry in a rural area of West Texas. For more stories about how the UTO is helping people around the world - go to the UTO website at [www.episcopalchurch.org/uto](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/uto). You can also download the UTO newsletter- *The Daily Thanks*.

Your Blue Box for the United Thank Offering can be picked-up in the church office. There are many ways you and your family can use a Blue Box.

- I. **Put a Blue Box in your laundry room and put the extra change left behind into the box when you do laundry. Give thanks for clothes to wear, water to wash clothing, a place to do laundry or that the socks all had a mate.**
  
- II. **Put a Blue Box at the table for family meals and ask everyone at the table to drop in a coin to give thanks for something that day - there was no pop quiz in class today, the boss took a personal day, I got to go to the park or pool today, we have food to eat and a safe place to gather as a family.**

How do you use your Blue Box? If you would like to share your suggestions you can e-mail me at: [momfarris3@aol.com](mailto:momfarris3@aol.com) .  
Leslie Farris, UTO Coordinator

<b>Serving in July</b>					
	<b>1 st</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>15th</b>	<b>22nd</b>	<b>29th</b>
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Angie R.	Wallace	Cheri Tolle	Louise L.	Louise L.
<b>Altar:</b>	Leslie F. Sandra P.	Leslie F. Sandra P.	Sally E. Louise L	Sally E. Louise L.	Marilyn M. Pat H.
<b>Greeter:</b>	James	Sandra	Stephan	Sandra	Peggy S.
<b>Reader:</b>	Max S.	Wallace	Peggy S.	Stephan L.	Grace S.
<b>Tellers:</b>	Greg U Don W.	Sally E. Anna H	Charlie H. Louise L.	Sandra P. Greg U.	Don W. Sally E.
<b>Usher:</b>	Don Y.	Carrie K.	James A.	Don W.	Greg U.

## Church of Our Saviour— July, 2007

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**Summer schedule—10AM  
Sunday mornings**

*Serving Madison County*

***Save the date ~ Pops at the Park!  
August 18th***

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Birthdays and Anniversaries in July ~  
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Birthdays ~  
Emily Ruppel—4th  
Jessica Bryan—7th  
Ann P Rieth—11th  
Stephan Cawthorne—11th  
Fred Ruppel—12th  
Carol Dismukes—15th  
Roger Hurt—23rd  
Keith Miller—24th  
Misty Blankenship—31st  
Anniversaries ~  
Birch & Kate Rambo—3rd  
Glenn & Jane Rainey—29th  
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## Chicago Hope Trip—Another Successful Year!

Three adults and nine teens recently spent a week working, serving and learning as they traveled to inner city Chicago. Each year for the past nine summers, a group of senior high school students and adults have made the six hour trip north west for this humbling adventure.

They served in a soup kitchen, helped move furniture, played with displaced children and had a great time in the process. The group also packed boxes of food for Catholic Charities. They slept on the floor at Augustana Lutheran Church each evening. Some of the highlights of their off time was thrift store shopping and going to the Navy Pier. They also enjoyed a fun afternoon at the beach at Lake Michi-

gan. While there they built a massive sand castle. The team left for the trip on Monday morning this time rather than Sunday afternoon, due to schedule conflicts of some youth and Pr. Andy. They returned the following Sunday evening.

Adults attending were Fr. Birch, Pr. Andy and Laura Shelton. Teens who went to Chicago were Rachel Ruppel, Jessie Bryan, Kaylen Pratt, Maggie Wilder, Becca Shelton, Caleb Fligor, Kristen Jones, Carrie Cleary and Blake Neumann.

This group thanks those who prayed for their safe travels as well as those who have financially supported the trip. So, who's up for year 10?