

# The Vision

Easter day—March 23rd

March , 2008

## Points to Ponder

- The straight and narrow path wouldn't be so narrow if more people walked on it.
- A Christian is the keyhole through which other folks see God.
- A good way to forget your troubles is to help others out of theirs.
- In life, there are many promotions in spiritual growth, but there is no graduation.
- What really matters is what happens in us, not to us.
- The dewdrop does God's work as much as the thunderstorm.
- He who can suppress a moment's anger may prevent a day of sorrow.
- Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier.

## This may sting a bit . . .

### By: Fr. Birch Rambo

At the annual meeting this January, I gave a dire warning. The Church of Our Saviour is growing, and that means change. When I arrived in 2004 one of my first chores was a book cleaning to find out how many members we REALLY had. The total was 59. The parochial report for 2007 says we now have 89 active baptized members. In 2004 we had 39 on an average Sunday. In 2007 we had 62. So far in 2008 it's up to 73. In 2004 our total operating revenue was just under \$70,000. The number for 2007 has yet to be calculated, but in 2006 it was more than \$111,000. We're growing like mad! It's even more impressive if you know that the conventional wisdom is that a church simply cannot grow once average Sunday attendance falls below 50 persons.

We are no longer the church we once were. An average Sunday attendance around 75 is a magic number in the 'science' of congregational development. It marks a transition from a 'family' sized parish to a 'pastoral' sized parish and it means that the way we have always done business won't work anymore. It used to be that each of us knew everybody in church, that's no longer the case. It used to be that individuals just stepped up and did what they saw needed doing. That won't work anymore. The Bishop's committee is taking the first steps toward putting a system in place that will carry us into the future. Like nearly all systems in the church, it is based on committees: Finance, Worship, Evangelism/inreach, Outreach, and

Parish Life. The wardens (Don Wiesmann and Danny Justice) are inviting roughly 5 people to be on each committee for a one year renewable term. (The Worship Committee is the exception to the rules.) In making committee assignments, they have two goals: to put together effective groups, to involve as many persons in the parish as possible, and to include newer members of the parish. To maximize the number of people involved, nobody will be on more than one committee. There will be changes, misunderstandings, and hurt feelings. Just because you have ALWAYS been in charge of sorting and painting the widgets does not mean you will be chosen to be on the widget committee. We know it may hurt your feelings, but we hope you will understand that that is not our intension.

Do not despair if you are not chosen to be on a committee. Your help is still very much needed. The Worship committee still needs chalice bearers and lectors. The Parish Life committee still needs party animals. The Finance committee still needs givers. The list goes on and on. The Bishop's Committee's goal is to involve every single person in some aspect of the ministry of The Church of Our Saviour. We hope you will be patient with us as we work out the kinks in the system and that you will do all you can to help your parish negotiate this difficult transition and continue to grow in health and strength.

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# Daughters of the King Updates!

1. The Mary Magdalene Chapter of the Daughters of the King will admit two new members, Muriel Stockburger and Betsy MacSwords, this month. They plan to take their vows on March 2, at the 11:00 service. Mary Lou Garland, diocesan president of the Order, will be our guest on that day and present the new Daughters for membership.

2. The annual Assembly of the Daughters of the King in the Diocese of Lexington will be held at Ascension, Frankfort, on Saturday, March 15. The keynote speaker is Nancy Sheffield, DOK president of Province IV. Up for discussion after lunch: a re-

vised set of bylaws for the diocese. Registration (\$6) starts at 9:00am, and the program begins at 9:45 and lasts through lunch until 2pm. Our chapter will bring vegetable trays to share. Current plans are to carpool from the church parking lot, departing at 7:45 am. Grace Sears would like to know who is planning to go ASAP.

The regularly scheduled March 13 meeting of the chapter at Our Saviour will be cancelled in favor of the Assembly two days later.

## From your Jr. Warden

Greetings to you all, So far the position of Jr. Warden has presented several opportunities. Thanks for the items in need of attention that have been pointed out. Some of them aren't simple since the fix could mean a permanent change. Safety is a major issue. Please, make it a priority to let me know if you see anything of a safety issue.

Thanks to Millie Albert for the donation of benches for the Memorial Garden. It is very important that any items you wish to donate be brought to my attention before the donation is made. Sometimes there may be others with the same idea or maybe future plans that might impact your decision. Remember, gifts that require upkeep should be considered carefully.

Keep me updated on anything you feel needs attention. I will place some sheets in the parish hall to use in communicating ideas. Please take time to fill one out and leave it in my box in the office.

All suggestions are a message .....  
"You Love your Church".

God's Blessings,  
Your Junior Warden  
Danny Justice  
d.justice@adelphia.net  
859-582-8030

## ***and there was light...!!!!***

The Acolyte Ministry is pleased and thrilled to have Sara and Caitelyn McCormick now serving as Torchbearers for the 11:00 service. The service for Bishop Sauls annual visit to Our Saviour was made even more special by the girls bright debut. Sarah and Caitelyn are also eager to serve as acolytes and crucifers after a bit more training.

If there is anyone else interested in learning more about training to become an acolyte, crucifer or

torchbearer please contact Louise Locke at 859-200-8301 or moonoverky@yahoo.com.

It would be great to have some radiant new faces to enrich our worship.

# News from the Youth Group

## By: Carol Ruppel

On Sunday, February 17, the youth got together to learn to cook Indian food and watch the movie *Gandhi*. Though over 3 hours long, the movie made those who were able to come a bit more sensitized to people’s needs and each person’s responsibility to do what he/she can to serve God in the world.

On March 5, many members of our youth group will attend a lecture by Paul Rusesabagina entitled “Hotel Rwanda: a Story Yet to be Told” at Brock Auditorium on campus. A group of us watched the movie *Hotel Rwanda* several weeks ago in preparation for this lecture by the man who is featured in the film. Through quick thinking and great personal courage, this hotel manager was able to save over a thousand people by sheltering them in the hotel where he worked while the rest of Rwandan society descended into chaos and the

international community stood by and did little to intervene.

The lecture is open to the public, with tickets for the event being sold through the ECU AFA Studies Office at 622-8676 (students of all ages are free).

As the youth group once again prepares for its annual mission trip to Chicago, please pray that our hearts would be moved by those things in the world that break the heart of God, and that we would be open to what He is saying to each of us about our commitment to loving Him and loving in the world through Him.

## Financial Report—By: Laura Melius

<b>OPERATING FUNDS</b>		
1/31/2008	Checking Account Balance	\$ 2,389.27
1/31/2008	Reserves - Hilliard Lyons Investment Account*	\$ 10,894.81
	Sub-total	<b>\$ 13,284.08</b>
1/31/2008	<b>Accounts Payable &amp; Designated Payables 2007</b>	
	Designated - Youth Mission Trip	\$ 1,260.96
	Designated - Building Fund	\$ 4,120.00
	Designated - Youth	\$ 386.89
	Designated - Music	\$ 149.00
	Designated - Hispanic Ministry	\$ (249.13)
	Designated - Altar/Flowers	\$ 135.65
	Episcopal Relief & Development Fund	\$ 175.75
	ECW	\$ 1,120.60
	Men's Group	\$ 1,150.54
	Memorial Garden	\$ -
	MacSwords Memorial Fund	\$ 139.31
	UTO	\$ 18.50
	Sub-total	<b>\$ 8,408.07</b>
1/31/2008	<b>Net Operating Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 4,876.01</b>
<b>BUILDING FUND</b>		
1/31/2008	Hilliard Lyons Building Fund Account	\$ 17,481.52
9/30/2007	Endowment Fund at Diocese	\$ 19,568.75
	Building Fund Balance	<b>\$ 37,050.27</b>
	Loan From Diocese	(\$180,000.00)
	Interest Accrual Year 1 (10/1/2006)	(\$11,700.00)
	Interest Accrual Year 2 (10/1/2007)	(\$12,460.50)
1/31/2008	<b>Building Fund</b>	<b>\$(167,110.23)</b>

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**Easter Vigil—March 22nd, 11PM**

*Serving Madison County*

***Easter Day—  
March 23rd***

## Birthdays and Anniversaries in March

### Birthdays:

Ed Boss—8th

Kelly McClellan 15th

Louise Locke—16th

Stephanie Castle—21st

Elaine Saunders—23rd

Sarah McCormick—26th

### Anniversaries:

Robert & Marilyn McMillan—18th

## Serving in March

	March 2	9th	16th	23rd	30th
<b>Acolytes</b>	Wallace, Louise	Angie, Louise	Wallace, Cheri	Angie, Louise	Wallace, Louise
<b>Altar</b>	Marilyn, Pat	Becky A, Peggy	Becky A, Peggy	Everyone	Angie, Becky K
<b>Greeter</b>	Grace	Sandra	Max	Sandra	Stephan
<b>Lector</b>	Roseanne O.	Muriel	Stephanie	Charlie	Henry
<b>Tellers</b>	Anna, Charlie	Roger, Louise	Doug, Sally	Anna, Charlie	Roger, Doug
<b>Ushers</b>	Carrie	Dan E	Max	Max	Barb