



Church of Our Saviour

The Vision

We Labor on....

September, 2007

Points to Ponder

- The gospel is not something only to go to church to hear—but to go FROM church to tell.
- If you believe in prayer, pray. If you believe in serving, serve. If you believe in giving, give.
- The Lord didn't burden us with work; he blessed us with it.
- There is nothing that tells the truth about us as Christians so much as our prayer life.
- Too often in criticizing others, we compare their weaknesses to our strengths.
- Happiness is found along the way, not at the end of the road.
- By perseverance, the snail reached the ark.

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Adult Christian Formation

By: Fr. Birch Rambo

At many churches, Sunday school is for children and youth only. In most Episcopal churches, however, we believe that Christian formation should happen throughout our lives. After all, we can never fully understand the wonder and glory of God!

This year, adult Christian Formation will start off with a course on world religions and belief systems, with an accent on how they differ from Christianity. We will begin, naturally enough, with a couple weeks of review of the fundamentals of Christianity, using the Nicene Creed as the basis. These opening sessions will also serve as adult baptismal preparation leading up to the Baptismal Feast of All Saints'.

Once we are all comfortable with what we believe as Christians, we will then cover the other two Abrahamic faiths: Judaism and Islam. From there we will move along to some of the Eastern religions and belief systems including Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Shintoism.

If time allows, we will also explore some of the more obscure religions

such as Baha'i, Sikhism, and Paganism.

Finally, again if time allows, we will examine some of the larger cults along with those groups that straddle the hazy border between cult and religion, J-H-W-H's Witnesses and Mormons for example. The class will be based in part on the book *The World's Religions* by Huston Smith. You need not buy the book, but it is a very useful reference and a surprisingly interesting read. It is available through Amazon.com (including a few preview pages if you want to see what you're getting into) or at the Cathedral Bookstore. We will be putting together a group order through the bookstore on the first day we meet. Christian Formation begins Sunday September 9. I am looking forward to seeing you there!

Bits 'N Pieces

The Parish **office will be closed** on September 3rd, in observance of Labor Day.

Citi-fest is September 4th, beginning at 5:30PM. This community outreach event is hosted by ECU each year as a way to welcome incoming students to the area. If you would like to help Fr. Birch 'man' the booth, let him know.

Men's breakfast is Saturday, September 8th, 8:30AM.

The **DOK** meet on September 13th, 7PM

Fall worship hours begin on September 9th. Holy Eucharist will be at 9 (spoken service) and 11AM. Sunday School for all will be at 9:45AM. See you there!

Our monthly fellowship **pot-luck lunch** will be on September 9th, after late service.

The **Bishop's Committee** will meet on September 16th, after services.

The **Men's Monday night Bible study** meets each week at 6:30 for dinner and 7PM for study. The group, coordinated by Danny Justice, meets at the Parish house for a great time of fellowship and discussion. All men are invited to join in as they are able.

New directories are available! Pick yours up in the narthex of the new building.

If you do not receive *The Advocate*, the Diocesan newsletter, and would like to, call the church office.

Financial Report ~ By: Laura Melius

OPERATING FUNDS		
7/31/2007	Checking Account Balance	\$ 6,893.30
7/31/2007	Reserves - Hilliard Lyons Investment Account*	\$ 10,719.98
	Sub-total	\$ 17,613.28
7/31/2007	Accounts Payable & Designated Payables 2007	
	Designated - Youth Mission Trip	\$ 1,204.36
	Designated - Building Fund	\$ -
	Designated - Youth	\$ 386.89
	Designated - Music	\$ 149.00
	Designated - Hispanic Ministry	\$ (249.13)
	Designated - Altar/Flowers	\$ 86.00
	Episcopal Relief & Development Fund	\$ -
	ECW	\$ 30.00
	Men's Group	\$ 1,150.54
	Memorial Garden	\$ -
	MacSwords Memorial Fund	\$ 464.50
	Sub-total	\$ 3,222.16
7/31/2007	Net Operating Fund Balance	\$ 14,391.12
BUILDING FUND		
7/31/2007	Hilliard Lyons Building Fund Account	\$ 15,583.85
12/31/2006	Endowment Fund at Diocese	\$ 18,683.00
	Building Fund Balance	\$ 34,266.85
	Loan From Diocese	<u>\$(180,000.00)</u>
7/31/2007	Building Fund	\$(145,733.15)

Christian Formation Classes begin Sept. 9

Jr./Sr. High School info:

To maximize the opportunities for our young people and the resources of the Lutheran and Episcopal churches, we have worked out a way to combine our Christian Education classes for Jr. High and High School young people. (We already bring them together for youth groups, so further time together makes sense.)

On Sunday mornings a St. Thomas volunteer will bring high school students from St. Thomas to Our Saviour about 9:45 am, where they will meet for Bible study and discussion with Fred Ruppel. The adult (not teenage! Driver) who brings the high school students will also pick up the Jr. High students from Our Saviour and take them to the Jr. High group meeting at St. Thomas. At the end of the classes an adult driver from Our Saviour will return the Sr. High students to St. Thomas and bring back the Jr. High students to Our Saviour.

Pre-school/Elementary Aged Info:

All of us have noticed that we have many more young children in church on Sunday mornings. We would like to offer two Sunday School classes for them, running from 10am-10:45. The younger group would include those aged 4-7, while the older ones would include ages 8-11, or grades 3-6.

In the past we have not had enough children or enough volunteers to offer two classes. They cannot succeed without volunteers willing to teach or assist and parents willing to bring their children. If you are interested in having Christian education classes for your child, please share your hopes and expectations with Fr. Birch, the wardens, or Grace Sears. If you are willing to teach, lead singing, or in any other way assist with children's classes, we need to hear from you!

Grace Sears

Daughters of the King News

The Daughters of the King will meet at 7:00 in the Parish Hall on Thursday, September 13. Please come with ideas for our devotional focus this year or service roles.

*The DOK Retreat is September
21-22.*

The Diocesan Retreat for the Daughters of the King will be held at the Domain on September 21-22. Fr. Brown, of Ascension, Frankfort, will be the retreat leader. **Reservations**

need to be made by September 5; an application form will be posted in the Parish Hall with more details.

If you have not yet paid your dues, get in touch with Sandra Plant before September 1.

Do we take the time to say THANK-YOU?

Laura Melius has been our long-time bookkeeper at Our Saviour—always available and always willing to serve the people of the Parish in this ministry. Thank-you!

For many years, Wallace Arthur has mowed the property around the Parish. Thanks, Wallace!

Recently, Sandra Plant, Anna Haug, Karen Cisler and Pat Harris spent time pulling weeds,

working in the flower beds and generally sprucing up the property. We thank each of you!

James Anderson does an excellent job recruiting people to be the Lectors each Sunday. Thanks!

There are many people at Our Saviour who quietly go about the business of serving. Take a moment to notice and thank them for what they do. May we all find an area to serve!

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Serving Madison County

Serving in September

	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
Readers	Roger	Roger	Ed P.	Charlie H.	James
Altar	Angie R.	Leslie	Leslie	Sally	Sally
	Becky K.	Sandra	Sandra	Louise	Louise
Tellers	Charlie	Sandra	Don	Anna	Louise
	Louise	Greg	Sally	Charlie	Greg
Greeters	Sandra	Sandra	Roger	Stephen	James
Usher	open				

Birthdays in September

Dan Evans—8th Graham Locke—16th
Philip Dismukes—18th Becky Arthur—20th
Nancy Ruppel—23rd Rocella Johnson—30th
Rachel Ruppel—30th

Gardeners Needed!

Many churches have a garden guild that looks after the plants and flowers as a way to glorify God and to rejoice in his creation. Some churches simply call it a Garden Guild while others call it a Guild of St. Francis. The members plant, prune, fertilize, weed and mulch the gardens almost year round. They pick a time and show up at the church armed with tools and determination. If anyone is interested in being part of a group of gardeners, please contact Sandra Plant. or leave a note in her box in the church office.

Our Own Magic Man

A highlight of Rally Day on Sunday, Sept. 9, will be a magic show for the children performed by our very own Clarence Miller. Clarence says he will do a 5 – 8 minute show just after the 11 a.m. service. Many of the youngsters already know that Clarence has a pocketful of tricks to share each Sunday during Fellowship Hour.

Clarence said he became fascinated by magic as a 10-year old boy during a performance at his school by Virgil the Magician. He became very involved in magic during the 1980's and that has led him into the business of inventing and marketing magic effects to customers throughout the world.

His wife, Eva, is very patient and supportive of Clarence's involvement in magic. Together they attend meetings of the Thoroughbred Magic Guild, Ring 179 of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, as well as other magical events.

The youngsters of the congregation have a real treat in store for them on Rally Day, Sept. 9, thanks to Clarence Miller. We are all truly blessed to have the Millers in our midst.