

COMMUNIQUÉ

OCTOBER 2011 EDITION

Ministry, Help and Generosity

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In mid-September, I took an overnight trip to the Boston area to attend a special service and reception at the Monastery of the Society of St. John the Evangelist (SSJE) in Cambridge. The occasion for the event was the completion of a desperately needed, top to bottom renovation of the community's 75 year old buildings – chapel, monastic residence and guesthouse. This massive undertaking meant the Brothers had to vacate the premises for over a year while the work was done; and it was expensive – around \$11 million when all was said and done. (For more on the service and renovation project see www.episcopalchurch.org/80263_129897_ENG_HTML.htm)

Two things struck me that day, above and beyond the beautifully restored and modernized buildings. The first was that the Brothers had decided to do the renovation work in order to stay in the busy city of Cambridge because that is where their ministry could be most effective. They could have sold their valuable river-front real estate and relocated elsewhere at less cost and headache – but their ministry with college students and countless others who come to share the spiritual center of repose they offer 5 minutes from hectic Harvard Square would have been seriously compromised. The future of the ministry God has called them to was the most important thing to them.

The second thing that struck me was the importance of asking for help. Again and again, the Brothers' spoke of their heart-felt gratitude for help given once it been asked for: from those who contributed to the capital campaign that funded the work, to friends who had shared professional expertise in finance/investment, project management, architecture, landscaping, etc.; above all, from God. More than one brother said how humbled the community had been by the outpouring of generosity they received -- when they had asked for help.

The Brothers' experience is on my mind as I think about our upcoming Stewardship campaign. As Elaine Patania writes on the following page, the campaign theme this year is *Believe in Tomorrow*. For the SSJE Brothers, belief in their present and future ministry motivated them to take on

the risks and challenges involved in the renovation project. For us at St. Francis, belief in our present and future ministry involves the Goals for developing and expanding our ministries that the Vestry has been working on the past year and a half. That work has already resulted in a growing, energized Youth Group, new visibility tools and opportunities developed by COME!, and sharing of transportation needs within the parish.

To realize the further ministry goals we have before us (for details, see <http://stfrancisdunellen.org/June2011.pdf>), we, too, will need to ask for help. Plans for a survey of Abilities and Skills of parishioners are underway which will enable us to ask for help with ministry leadership and participation in ways appropriate to people's skill-sets and interests. The use of our God given time and abilities in God's service is major act of stewardship.

But like the Brothers, St. Francis also needs financial support to carry out the ministries God is calling us to. On Inspiration Sunday, October 16th, you'll receive the first packet of information in the program. It will include a card with information about how you can increase your giving as a percentage of income. As you may know, The Episcopal Church urges its members to give a tithe (10%) of income to support the mission and ministry of the church, locally, nationally and globally. The card you will receive offers step-by-step ideas about how to move toward that goal if you aren't yet there. I'll say more about that in detail on the 16th. For now, I want simply to urge you to start thinking of your giving less in terms of \$X/week and more in terms of % of income.

If we are committed to the ministries God calls us to, honest in asking for help and generous in our response, we can, with God's help, believe in the tomorrow God is calling St. Francis to.

Peace,



Stewardship ***“Believe In Tomorrow”***

On October 16th we will begin our Living Stewardship Program with Inspiration Sunday. On this day, Father Zamboni will introduce the program as we consider and look for our very own stewardship moment. As you leave the Church, please be sure to pick up your copy of the program in the Narthex. If you are unable to be here with us on Oct. 16th, it will be mailed directly to your home. On the following Sunday and throughout this campaign, you will hear presentations by fellow parishioners, telling about their lives as members of the St. Francis Church family.

On October 30th, Gratitude Sunday, you will receive your pledge card. They will be placed in the Narthex for you to pick up. At this time, you may fill out your pledge card and deposit it in the basket at the back of the Church or take it home for consideration and prayer returning it the following Sunday. Again if you are not present it will be sent directly to your home. To keep track of our giving, as each pledge card is returned there will be small footprint attached to a picture of a sunrise, reflecting that as we walk together we **“Believe In Tomorrow.”**

November 13th, Consecration Sunday, is the day that all the pledge cards will be brought to the altar for consecration.

November 20th, is Celebration Sunday. As always we will have a delicious ***Pancake Breakfast*** as a thank you for returning your gifts!

We are never closer to God than when we give of our time, our talent, and treasures. Remember also, that our Church is here for us regardless of our giving circumstances. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to Elaine, Alan or Father Zamboni.

Elaine Patania
Alan Benjamin
Stewardship Co-Chairmen

ANNIVERSARIES IN OCTOBER

Happy Birthday to:

Alan Benjamin – 10/1
Coral Brown – 10/1
Carroll Wilson, Jr. – 10/4
Geri Peters – 10/6
Brian Conway – 10/6
Brenda Cudjoe – 10/7
Beth Chernichowski – 10/9
Nicholas Waskiel – 10/9
Sean O'Sullivan – 10/13
Ed Myzie – 10/13

Patricia McElvery – 10/17
Seth Heiney – 10/17
Brad York – 10/18
Tyler Neal – 10/19
Kevin Parmelee – 10/19
Danielle D;Alessandro – 10/26

Anniversary of Baptism

Gianna Myers – 10/1
Natalie Doesburgh – 10/1
Lawrence Boucek – 10/1

Christine Morris – 10/1
Madelynn Pfeiffer – 10/2
Linda Ward Arico – 10/14
Nicholas Waskiel – 10/22
Calvin King, Jr. – 10/28

Anniversary of Confirmation

Cathy Hirsch – 10/1

Wedding Anniversary

Thais & Marco Migliaro – 10/6
Nancy & David Dunham – 10/12

PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU DO NOT SEE YOUR BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY DATES ABOVE, OR IF THEY ARE INCORRECT.

Serving The Church During October

Sunday, Oct. 2nd – Blessing of the Animals

8 AM Lector - Amy MyCarroll Wilson
Usher - Paul Sinckler
10 AM Acolytes - Cecil Baker, Branden Villa-Chauvin,
Amanda Telesco
Lectors - Princess Thomas, Pam Maiolo
Chalice - Princess Thomas, Norma Tucker
Ushers - Geri Peters, Karen Williams
Greeter - Norma Tucker
Counters - Nancy Dunham, Leslie Oliver
Altar Guild - Geri Peters, Karen Williams,
Barbara Dalto

Sunday, October 23rd

8 AM Lector - Carroll Wilson
Usher - Ed Myzie
10 AM Acolytes - Amanda Telesco, Evelyn McNelis,
Julien Greene
Lectors - Lisa Webb, Leslie Oliver
Chalice - Lisa Webb, Elaine Patania
Ushers - Norma Tucker, Cordell Trotman
Greeter - Audrey Johansen
Counters - Amy Myzie, Edith Phelps
Altar Guild - Leslie Oliver, Pam Maiolo,
Cordell Trotman

Sunday, Oct. 9th

8 AM Lector - Amy Myzie
Usher - Ed Myzie
10 AM Acolytes - Julien Greene, Jonathan Parmelee,
Ashley Beam
Lectors - Norma Tucker, Elaine Patania
Chalice - Lisa Webb, Tiffany O'Sullivan
Ushers - Elaine & Tom Patania
Greeter - Norma Trimmer
Counters - Ilia Scriven, Elaine Patania
Altar Guild - Audrey Johansen, Sharon Benjamin,
Nathalie Edwards

Sunday, October 30th

8 AM Lector - Amy Myzie
Usher - Ed Myzie
10 AM Acolytes - Vito Pelliccia, Everette Pfeiffer,
Ashley Beam
Lectors - Leslie Oliver, Pam Maiolo
Chalice - Elaine Patania, Lisa Webb
Ushers - Tom Patania, Arthur McConney
Greeter - Norma Trimmer
Counters - Mary Pfeiffer, Pam Maiolo
Altar Guild - Geri Peters, Karen Williams,
Barbara Dalto

Sunday, Oct. 16th

8 AM Lector - Paul Sinckler
Usher - Carroll Wilson
10 AM Acolytes - Kelsey Pelliccia, Cecil Baker,
Vito Pelliccia
Lectors - Lisa Webb, Nancy Dunham
Chalice - Elaine Patania, Princess Thomas
Ushers - Arthur McConney, Pam Maiolo
Greeter - Leslie Oliver
Counters - Mary Pfeiffer, Paul Sinckler
Altar Guild - Norma Trimmer, Muriel Wilson,
Norma O'Sullivan

Fall Fundraising Dinner: Our annual fall fundraising dinner will take place in the church's parish hall on Saturday, November 5, 2011. We need your help in soliciting/selling ads for our souvenir brochure. Advertising forms, along with the appropriate request cover letter, are now available and are on the table in the Narthex. Please take one, or two, or three, or more. Take them with you as you shop, get your hair cut, buy groceries, or pick up a prescription.

Okay, so you are not skilled at "selling". Let us know and we will write a "sales script" for you.

You can also purchase an ad. Don't know what to write? We can create one for you.

Please do not hesitate to contact Cathy Hirsch (732-752-3277 or cathyhirsch@yahoo.com) or Audrey McConney (732-752-5608 or the1biga@hotmail.com) for additional information or if you have unanswered questions.

Gospel Bracelets and Craft Group

Thanks to the dozen members of the congregation who turned out to design 40 Gospel Bracelets on Saturday, September 10. We now have 140 bracelets to offer for sale. We expect to do well at the Dunellen Street Fair on September 25, and we expect sales to be even better as Christmas approaches. We would like to put together a mailing list of past customers so that we can remind them what good holiday gifts our bracelets are. If you have given or sold bracelets to friends, family, or coworkers, please provide Edith Phelps or Barbara Dalto with contact information so that we can do a pre-Christmas mailing.



Our Craft Group hopes to offer chocolate goodies for sale in the Narthex on December 4, 11, and 18. Watch the Sunday Bulletins for dates when we will meet in the church kitchen after Book Group to make chocolate clusters and dipped items.

All are welcome to participate.

Barbara Dalto



COME!

The Annual Blessing of the Animals

Bring all your furry, slimy, slithery and feathered friends to

St. Francis' Episcopal Church

(on leashes or in cages, please!)

at Noon on Sunday, October 2nd

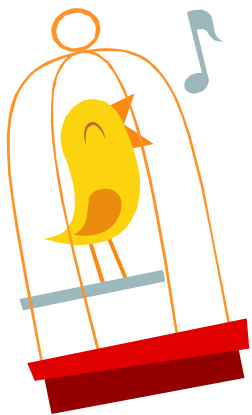
for

The Annual Blessing of the Animals

in the tradition of St. Francis of Assisi.

We'll be outside on the front lawn, or inside if it rains.

All are welcome!!!





CROP Hunger Walk – ending hunger one step at a time!

In January 2010, an earthquake devastated parts of Haiti. Church World Service was there immediately assisting survivors, first as part of the emergency response effort, and now supporting long-term recovery and reconstruction. Your steps in the CROP Hunger Walk are helping us make a difference in Haiti – and around the world.

\$25 can provide a farm family with everything they need to make succulent, nutritious honey – hives, training, equipment.

\$50 can provide 400 lbs. of much-needed food for a local church-run food pantry, or seeds and tools for three families.

\$100 can provide 250 cute and useful baby chicks, who will grow up to be egg-producing chickens.

Join the CROP Hunger Walk or donate to a Walker today.

Become an online Hunger Walker or donor.

Visit www.cropwalkonline.org to sign up!



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

CWS/CROP Regional Office toll-free 888-CWS-CROP (888-297-2767)

www.churchworldservice.org

Join the CROP Hunger Walk

Date: Sunday, October 23rd

Time: 1:30 PM


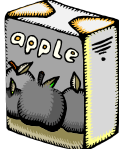


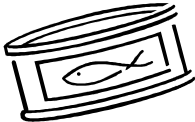
Location: Christ United Methodist Church
485 Hoes Lane, Piscataway

Contact: Daniel Conklin
danlconklin@msn.com

The money collected from the walk goes to Church World Service (CWS), a cooperative, multi-denominational ministry (www.churchworldservice.org) providing hunger relief, sustainable self-help and development that addresses the root cause of poverty and powerlessness, disaster relief and refugee assistance in more than 80 countries, including the United States. CROP Hunger Walks help to provide food and water, as well as resources that empower people to meet their own needs. Besides food, the money goes to provide seeds and tools, wells and water systems, technical training and micro-enterprise loans. Twenty-five percent of the funds collected locally remain here for use by the Dunellen/ Piscataway FISH organization, which is the local, all-volunteer, food bank and support agency. Individual donors have the option of designating their gifts to go to other approved, international hunger-fighting agencies, other than CWS, if desired. This option is unique to CROP Walk events.

MONTHLY FISH DONATION

2011/2012

<p><u>JULY</u></p> <p>Peanut Butter/Jelly</p> 	<p><u>AUGUST</u></p> <p>Juice</p> 	<p><u>SEPTEMBER</u></p> <p>Cereal Cold/Hot</p> 
<p><u>OCTOBER</u></p> <p>Milk powdered or Parmalat box</p> 	<p><u>NOVEMBER</u></p> <p>Canned Vegetables</p> 	<p><u>DECEMBER</u></p> <p>Paper goods: Napkins/paper towels/ toilet paper</p> 
<p><u>JANUARY</u></p> <p>Pasta/sauce</p> 	<p><u>FEBRUARY</u></p> <p>baby food/supplies</p> 	<p><u>MARCH</u></p> <p>Rice & Beans</p> 
<p><u>APRIL</u></p> <p>FISH Hospitality donation (TBD)</p>	<p><u>MAY</u></p> <p>Canned fish or meat</p> 	<p><u>JUNE</u></p> <p>?</p> <p>Your choice</p> <p>?</p> <p>?</p>

- The suggestions for each month are just suggestions for donation. You may give any food or personal product at anytime.
- Please remember to check expiration dates on the food that you donate. All products with expired dates will be discarded.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION!!

Upcoming Dates at St. Francis

St. Francis' Day and the Annual Blessing of the Animals will take place on **Sunday, October 2nd**. We will also dedicate the sacristy to the memory of Barbara O'Neill on this day.

"Baby, Look at Us Now!" - Our annual Welcome Back Dinner will be held on **Saturday, October 15th**. All are invited, but those who are new to St. Francis are especially urged to attend. We'll begin at 6 PM, end whenever... A sign-up sheet is on the Narthex table.

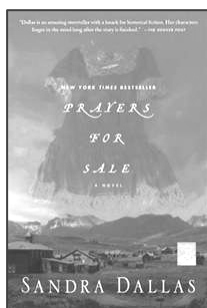
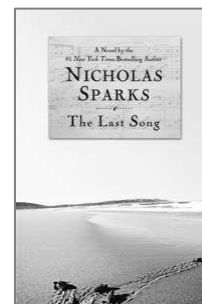
Our annual Fall Cleanup will begin at 9 AM on **Saturday, October 22nd**. More hands make less work... and yes, that's a hint!!

Saturday, November 5th will be our annual Fall Fundraising Dinner; as always, PLEASE help out with selling ads, posting announcements as you are able, and selling and buying tickets to the dinner – we do need your help!

The Annual Women's Christmas Party will be held on **Tuesday, December 6th at 6:30 PM**. Bring a gift of approximately \$15, a dish to share for dinner, and a friend or two!

Book Group

As usual, the group met on Wednesday, September 10 at noon in Milbank Hall. We are presently discussing "The Last Song" by Nicholas Sparks. The group has grown to eleven participants, including one brave gentleman. Now that he has broken the barrier we hope more will follow his example.



Our next book will be "Prayers For Sale" by Sandra Dallas, followed by "Becoming an Anti-Racist Church, Journey Toward Wholeness" by Joseph Barndt. The later is the book our Bishop has urged be read diocese-wide. Watch the Sunday Bulletins for Book Group information.

All are welcome.

Barbara Dalto

An African Evensong

Leaders: The Right Reverend George E. Councill, D.D., Bishop, Diocese of New Jersey;
The Reverend Canon Petero A. N. Sabune, Global Partnership Officer, Africa & The Middle
East, The Episcopal Church

Please join the people of the Diocese of New Jersey and the Sudan/Darfur Committee of our Diocese for an African Evensong featuring traditional African worship, music, dance, drums and other instruments, attire and the fervent Joy and Praise of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The African Evensong will be followed by a marvelous reception featuring African dishes and a visual presentation on theological education in Africa. In addition to offering a powerful witness for the people of Sudan and Darfur in this continued time of crisis and war, we will be requesting a free will offering for the new Scholarship Fund of the Sudan/Darfur Committee, to provide theological education/seminary education for a leader for the Anglican Church of Sudan, and the power and presence of the Christian church in the work of justice, peace and reconciliation.



Please join us for a remarkable and inspiring evening of worship, education and fellowship as we provide a powerful voice of advocacy for the people of Sudan and Darfur! Sponsored by the Sudan/Darfur Committee.

When: Sunday, October 30 at 3 pm

Cost: None, free will offering. Reception follows.

Where: Trinity Cathedral
801 West State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08618
609 392-3805

We are seeking singers of all voice parts to assist in this worship effort. There will be a rehearsal 1:45 for the 3pm worship. Everything you will need will be provided at the rehearsal on the 30th. Just bring your voice, spirit of praise and plan to be a blessing. No vestments required.

It is our prayer that you will agree that this ministry has value and will join us in this effort to be a blessing to our God loving sisters and brothers in The Sudan. The anthem for this service will be "UNITY" (based on Psalm 133. This very singable anthem will be taught during the rehearsal period on the 30th.

Please respond to Deborahford@trinitycathedral.comastbiz.net or call Trinity Cathedral at 609-392-3805 ext 108.

Please join us as we honor our Lord and give attention to those living in The Sudan. A reception will follow.

Outreach



- Grace's Kitchen – next dates- Sept. 26 & Nov. 28. Continued support for this area soup kitchen at Grace Church, Plainfield is needed. Volunteers help prepare lunch & then serve to program clients. We begin prep at 10am & are finished by 1 pm. Please contact Pam Maiolo if you need a ride to the site or have any questions.
- FISH – recommended donation for Sept. is hot/cold cereal. Oct. is milk – powdered or Parmalat variety. Remember that these are only recommendations & all non-perishables are accepted.
- CROP Walk –Oct. 23rd. CROP Hunger Walks help children and families worldwide – and right here in the U.S. – to have food for today, while building for a better tomorrow. Christ Methodist on Hoes La. is the coordinating church.
- Trinity Church, Spotswood - A \$250 donation was sent to this Diocese of NJ Episcopal Church to assist with their hurricane loss expenses. Total restoration of this historic church's hall & school is needed after hurricane Irene.



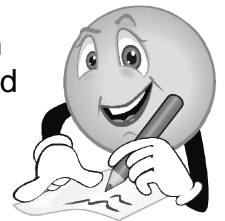
Sunday School

Our St. Francis Sunday School got off to a good start after the summer break with 17 attending. Several have recently celebrated their sixth birthdays and moved into the “Six and Up” group, where they demonstrated their new maturity in their ability to listen and participate.



Our opening prayers included one of thanks for the heroes God has provided to keep us safe. We are focusing on things we can do to make our world a better, more peaceful place. We plan to learn lots of interesting things about St. Francis when we celebrate his day on the first Sunday in October.

Many thanks to those parents who have already returned the registration forms we need to serve our children better. If you haven't already filled one out, please do so; forms are available on the table in the Narthex, or by asking Barbara or Waring. The information is very necessary. For example, they provide us with allergy information so that we can prepare for our Sunday School session in the church kitchen to be held on October 16, when we all work together making and sharing goodies.



All are welcome to visit our Sunday School rooms at any time.

Barbara Dalto

St. Francis Episcopal Church
400 New Market Road
Dunellen, NJ 08812



ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

400 New Market Road
Dunellen, NJ 08812

www.stfrancisdunellen.org
732-968-6781
732-968-7794 (Fax)

OCTOBER 2011

Vicar

The Rev. Jack Zamboni

Deacon

The Rev. Margaret Forsythe

Organist & Choir Director

Elma Adams, B.A., M.A.

Wardens

Pam Maiolo, Sr. Warden

Paul Sinckler, Jr. Warden

Sunday School Administrator

Barbara Dalto

Treasurer

Cynthia Pelliccia

Finance Team Leader

Audrey McConney

Vestry

Alan Benjamin – Buildings & Grounds

Nancy Dunham – Youth Group

Pam Maiolo – Outreach, Finance

Amy Myzie – Buildings & Grounds, Finance

Leslie Oliver – Altar Guild, COME!

Cynthia Pelliccia – Fellowship, Finance

Geri Peters – Fund Raising

Edith Phelps – COME!

Mary Pfeiffer – Christian Formation

Ilia Scriven - Finance

Paul Sinckler – Buildings & Grounds, Finance

Clerk of the Vestry

Leslie Oliver