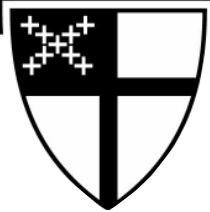


*"We are a vibrant, welcoming, and growing community of faith,
feeding the hearts, minds, and spirits of all who come."*

St. Gabriel's HERALD

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. GABRIEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Volume 9 Issue 7 July 2009



Spiritual Amateurs

How often have you heard someone say, "We can't leave this up to a bunch of amateurs; we need a professional to do the job right!"? Generally the task in question is seen to be very important, needing a high level of expertise. The word "profession" in its Latin root means "public declaration," corresponding to the more modern definition of a "professional" as "one who engages in an occupation one professes to be skilled in." In the past "professions" were a select few occupations: doctors, lawyers, and ministers. Today, almost any occupation or even casual activity can qualify as a "profession": we have professional drivers, professional dancers, professional cooks, professional bowlers, even professional comedians. Although there are particular criteria for what makes an occupation a "profession" (full-time, specialized training, national association, code of ethics, etc) our culture tends to ignore these in distinguishing a professional from an amateur. Far and away when we ask whether a person is a professional or an amateur the answer will solely depend on whether they are being paid for what they are doing. The amateur in our "dollar-based" society will always be the inferior title: "if she were good enough, she would be getting paid."

In her book *Holy Listening* Margaret Guenther makes a very interesting distinction between "amateurs" and "professionals." Although she is a world-renowned spiritual director, author, and ordained priest Guenther calls herself an amateur. And she means this to be a good thing! She notes that the word "amateur" shares its origin with the Latin words, "amore,"

and "amator," which means "one who loves." The amateur is engaged in a vocation or activity because she loves what she is doing. Whether one is paid or not does not seem to matter (*gasp*). What matters by far is whether one is functioning out of love or not. In Guenther's counter-cultural way of looking at things one can easily be a professional by all the important criteria listed above and yet be a raving amateur at the same time.

When it comes to one's spiritual life, and the ministries in which one engages, Guenther's distinction between amateur and professional becomes especially significant. In our spiritual lives and ministries we tend to begin as amateurs in the true sense of the word. We pray, we feed, we sing out of love. What can happen over time is that love is supplanted by a "payment," of sorts. Suddenly I might find myself preaching for accolades instead of preaching out of love, or feeding the poor for their gratitude, or praying so that others know of my piety. I have become a "professional" in the narrowest sense, and it isn't pretty.

From time to time I ask myself, "Why am I _____ing (visiting a sick person, intoning a prayer, writing a newsletter article)?" I find such questions to be helpful "checks" along the way in my spiritual journey. I know the various "payments" that make me happy but have nothing at all to do with the Kingdom of God. And such questions help me to reorient myself if I find that I have strayed into "narrow professionalism." As Christians our currency is love. Love is the gift that God has given to us. Love is the gift we are made to convey. When it comes down to it we are born amateurs. And that is more than enough.

Birthdays

03 - Sue Goforth
 06 - Jimmie Minor
 11 - Richard Goforth
 18 - Jim Waller
 20 - Elaine Howard
 21 - Carol Irvin
 23 - Callie Flack
 27 - John Lutumba



Anniversaries

18 - Glenn & Jean Pugh



Vestry Report

June 16, 2009

Present: Diedre Page, Noble Shaw, David Holmes, Wink Porterfield, Kim Bennett, Jana Brown, Paul Swanson, and Cheryl Rothschild by phone. Also present was the Rev. Bill Combs, Rector; Greg Bandy, Treasurer. The meeting was recorded for transcription by Darlene Knowlton, Vestry Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Evening prayer and scripture was read.

The Vestry members present did some personal visiting to catch up with each other as a community within.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the May 19th meeting were read. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes for the May meeting as read, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer gave the May 2009 report. A revised budget was presented for 2009. This includes \$1,200 for the Rector's Discretionary Fund, as well as \$2,400 in pledges that were not in the previous budget. A motion was made that the budget be accepted with the revision as the budget for the remainder of the year. The motion was seconded, and a call for any other discussion was made. The motion was passed unanimously. The May Variance Report was presented with figures from the new budget. Our income for May taking into account our designated offerings was only about \$700

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Lectionary

July 5th – Proper 9
 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10; Psalm 48;
 2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13

July 12th – Proper 10
 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19; Psalm 24;
 Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29

July 19th – Proper 11
 2 Samuel 7:1-14a; Psalm 89:20-37;
 Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 26th – Proper 12
 2 Samuel 11:1-15; Psalm 14;
 Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21

Sunday Worship

8:00 AM

Holy Eucharist - Rite I

8:45 AM – 9:15 AM

Fellowship

9:15 AM – 10:15 AM

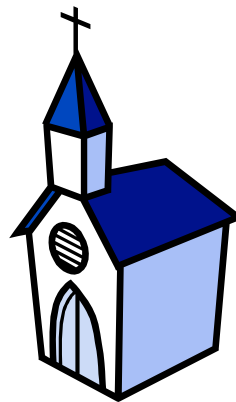
Adult Christian Education

9:15 AM – 12:00

Nursery

10:30 AM

Holy Eucharist - Rite II



Ch'Angels

In May we collected \$98.34 for the Hall County Humane Society. June's collection for Episcopal Relief & Development was \$99.61.

July's collection will go to South Hall Community Food Pantry.

May Financial Statement							
	Average Attendance	Budgeted Income	Actual Income	Budgeted Expenses	Actual Expenses	Loan Amortization	Net Income
May	86	\$18,912.67	\$18,189.72	\$17,314.87	\$17,245.63	\$1,746.58	(\$802.49)
Year to Day	90	\$94,563.33	\$96,453.74	\$84,269.57	\$88,333.91	\$6,949.41	\$1,170.42

(Continued from page 2)

off budget which for May was pretty good. We are continuing to hold the line pretty well on expenses. We were slightly under budget on expenses for May, but Greg wanted to note that for what ever reason the billing cycle for the electric bill was such for this month that we did not have to actually make an electric bill payment in May which is why the building and grounds number is low. Over all we were about \$800 in the red for the month compared to a budget of \$150 in the red so we were slightly unfavorable for the month not by a huge amount. YTD we are in the black, but running slightly behind budget. We have taken in about \$96,500 in income and this includes designated money. Our expenses right now are running about \$4,000 over budget. We had forecast a \$3,300 budget surplus at this time and we are sitting at about a \$1,200 budget surplus for the year. Greg stated that with the new budget he is going to go back and redo all of the variance reports from the beginning of the year through out May. This is due to the revised budget as well as some recalibrating he has had to do in the Quickbooks accounting. In this way the variance reports submitted for audit will have complete and correct information.

A motion was made to accept the variance report for audit with the two changes that were discussed. The motion was seconded. The motion passed.

It was discussed about where and how to show Designated Gift money. Greg stated that at the previous meeting discussion was to move money out of the operating fund into the Vanguard account for the designated offerings that we have received. The Finance Committee talked about this and it was determined that YTD we have had about \$3,500 in designated offerings to the church, and then if you add in the \$3,000 that was given last year for the shed that calculates out to be about \$6,500. It was stated that the Vestry needs to be aware where the designated money is and when it is expensed.

It appears right now that plate is way down and designated gifts has gone way up significantly from prior years. As long as we are tracking designated gifts as income we need to make sure that it is accounted for as a designated gift in the expense line. This gets back to setting up these accounts appropriately so that designated giving and expenses are tracked that way. It was

asked if Greg could do a separate sheet to list the designated gifts (new and cumulative with subcategories) each month as a part of the treasurer's report.. The finance committee will take up the designated gifts account.

Committee Reports:

Building and Grounds:

The youth will use Kent room #2 and Kent room # 3 will be the storage room for the things that is in the trailer now. The shelving in the trailer will be used in the storage room.

Kevin's next thing is to start moving things in the trailer and in to the trash that is trash and things into room # 3 that are to be saved. There was discussion as to what is stored in the trailer.

Kevin would like the vestry to make the discussion as to what to do with the excess money if there is money left over from the actual removal of the trailer. It was stated that it is not wished for any overage from the project to roll over to the operating account. It was suggested that the money remain with Building and Grounds.

There was discussion about the re-striping of the parking lot, and Bill took the opportunity to thank the Girl Scouts. It will cost about \$50 in paint to finish the re-striping, and the machine is stored in the trailer.

There is a need to be transparent as to what is done with the left over money. Money left over from the purchase of the organ went into the purchase of music.

When the trailer is removed there will be a large hole that will need to be leveled and work done where the new shed will be placed. It was decided that any excess money would roll over to Building and Grounds to beautify the area after the removal of the trailer, and or our parking lot.

Jana and Kim volunteered to send thank you notes to the Girl Scouts.

Outreach:

Is doing fine. There was discussion about committee meeting and the benefits received from information received from individuals at a meeting. A note was received from Gainesville Action Ministries about

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(Continued from page 3)
yearly dues.

Congregational Development:

Scheduled to met June 23rd at 7:00 p.m.

Worship:

A meeting with the Flower Guild has been set up. The meeting is basically to get some policy and procedure for them. Discussion for the next vestry meeting will be the finances of the FG. They would like to get a refrigeration unit for the flowers to keep them fresher. It was pointed out that maybe 2010 the FG have a formal budget to work within. It was questioned where to put a refrigeration unit.

Stewardship:

It was stated that Wink will be recruiting for our fall stewardship.. A couple of people are willing to be on the committee already, and at the next vestry meeting a plan will be together. Wink was asked if he would speak at both services to update the parish about this year. Last year's Oblations Sunday was discussed.

Parish Care:

They delivered 2 meals during the month.

Christian Education:

VBS teachers have been contacted for a meeting, but only one has responded. It was stated that Joni Payne will be taking over the Wednesday night youth. Adult Christian Education is finishing up the book of Revelation, and after that General Convention will be discussed.

Rector's Report:

Share and Care was discussed. Feed-back was requested from the vestry as far as need. Confidentiality was brought up. Stephens Ministry was suggested as a source to talk one on one with individuals. A box was suggested with a lock that only a few would have access to. It was questioned as to what Stephens Ministry is and how to get someone in Stephen Ministry. It was brought up that some times it could be a family issue and more than one in the family needs help.

OLD BUSINESS:

Wish List: Items for wish list.. Items for the Wish List are to be sent to Bill or Darlene, and the items will be posted on the wall.

Christian Ed: Bulletin Board for Christian Ed to hang on the wall.

Power Point projector.

Parish Care:

Good set of knives, Baking pan, and quality 10" non stick skillet.

A Ficus Tree was donated by Cheryl Rothschild to go in the back of the church.

Memorable Music Night is June 26th. Donations for tickets are \$20 per person, beverages, food, memorable night, and commorative ticket.

Bill gave an update on break in of Kent Hall room #3. The man arrested has been sentenced, and our stolen items will be returned soon.

NEW BUSINESS

There was discussion about changing the day of the vestry meeting. Right now it will stay as is.

Laura Ward asked to use the Parish Hall to rehearse a play on Sunday afternoons for her new theatre company. The play will be late July. St. Gabriel's would get listed in their program. A motion was made to extend the invitation. The motion was seconded and passed.

Retreat 2010: Paul is getting information for cabins around Helen, Dahlonga. He will bring a list of what he has found within 45 minutes with prices. Wish List: Vestry Retreat could be on that list.

The meeting closed with The Lords Prayer followed by Evening Prayer and was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Knowlton
Vestry Clerk

Vacation Bible School



Its Vacation Bible School time, and this year we will be joining the folks over at Christ Lutheran. Be sure to mark your calendars July 26-30, 6:30-8:00 nightly. The theme this year will be Crocodile Dock and no matter what station they're exploring, kids will hear the daily Bible Point and experience it in a new way! At Crocodile Dock, every activity plays as important role in the overall Bible learning experience. The cost for registration will be only \$10.00 per child (max of \$20.00 per household). We will need at least 4 adult volunteers. If you are interest please contact the church office or Diedre at 678-200-0816. As you all may be aware the budget for VBS this year is zero, therefore we are asking for donations to help fund this wonderful adventure for our St. Gabriel kids.

July 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 8:00 AM Rite I 9 - 12 Nursery 9:15 Adult Ed. 10:30 AM Rite II	6 Food Pantry 4:00—6:00	7 Quilting Ministry 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	8 Music 101 7:00—8:30 PM	9 Food Pantry 10:00—12:00	10 Food Pantry 10:00—12:00	11 Flower Guild Food Pantry 10:00—12:00
12 8:00 AM Rite I 9 - 12 Nursery 9:15 Adult Ed. 10:30 AM Rite II	13 Food Pantry 4:00—6:00	14 Quilting Ministry 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM	15 Music 101 7:00—8:30 PM	16 Food Pantry 10:00—12:00	17	18 Men's Ministry Flower Guild Food Pantry 10:00—12:00
19 8:00 AM Rite I 9 - 12 Nursery 9:15 Adult Ed. 10:30 AM Rite II	20 Food Pantry 4:00—6:00	21 Quilting Ministry 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Vestry 7:00 PM	22 Music 101 7:00—8:30 PM	23 Food Pantry 10:00—12:00	24	25 Flower Guild Food Pantry 10:00—12:00
26 8:00 AM Rite I 9 - 12 Nursery 9:15 Adult Ed. 10:30 AM Rite II VBS 6:30-8:00 PM	27 Food Pantry 4:00—6:00 <i>St. Gabe's staffing</i> VBS 6:30-8:00 PM	28 Quilting Ministry 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM VBS 6:30-8:00 PM	29 VBS 6:30-8:00 PM Music 101 7:00—8:30 PM	30 Food Pantry 10:00—12:00 VBS 6:30-8:00 PM	31	

Those Who Serve

8:00 AM	07/05/09	07/12/09	07/19/09	07/26/09
OT	Edith Collins	Pam Keene	Wink Porterfield	Bill Caiaccio
NT	Bill Caiaccio	Randi Guido	Anne Porterfield	Edith Collins
Prayers	Mark Guido	Sandy Kiddie	E Klimo/B Milledge	Ed Wood
Chalice	Wink Porterfield	Paul Swanson	Edith Collins	Wink Porterfield
Usher/Greeter	B & D Milledge	B & C Caiaccio	M & R Guido	R & M Robins
Refreshments	The Swansons	Billie Manterfield	Esther Atkinson	Louise Freeman

10:30 AM

OT	Joni Payne	Zach Newton	Laura Ward	Jim Waller
NT	Julia Mosley	Noble Shaw	Kim Bennett	Bob Condon
Prayers	Grace Lutumba	Jim Waller	Trudy Buggeln	Olivia Erbele
Crucifer	Summer Schedule	Summer Schedule	Summer Schedule	Summer Schedule
Choir	These positions will not be used during the summer.			
Lectern				
Children's Chapel				
Chalice (2)	Noble Shaw Jim Waller	Bob Condon Jean Pugh	Cheryl Rothschild Noble Shaw	Jim Waller Bob Condon
Oblations	Cundiff Family	Holmes Family	LeMay Family	Lutumba Family
Ushers (2)	D & B Holmes	Z & BJ Newton	B & D Condon	G & J Pugh
Greeters (2)	B & D Condon	K & C Flack	D & B Holmes	S & J Brown
Verger	Jim Waller	Noble Shaw	Trudy Buggeln	Noble Shaw
Refreshments	Jennifer Combs	Trudy Buggeln	The Shaws	The Newtons

Both Services

Vestry Person	Noble Shaw	David Holmes	Diedre Page	Cheryl Rothschild
Altar Guild	Team 4: P Wood, J Tieslau, K & R Bennett	Team 1: A & W Porterfield, J. Waller, C Flack	Team 2: J & D Madajewski, M Cundiff, L Ward	Team 3: L Freeman, C Ash, B Conley, T Buggeln
Flowers	Open	J2A	Louise Freeman	The Flacks
Flower Guild	Margie Robins	Jo Tieslau	Jan Waller	Callie Flack
Holy Mowers	Condon/Conley	Flack/Porterfield	Lutumba/Robins	M & J Guido
Mow by	July 11th	July 18th	July 25th	August 1st
Sacred Sweepers	D & P Swanson	B J & Z Newton	B Condon	Combs Family
Clean by	July 11th	July 18th	July 25th	August 1st

General Convention 2009

The Episcopal Church will be having its triennial gathering in Anaheim, California from July 8 – July 17. Every three years all the diocese of the Episcopal Church send representatives to make decisions on worship and church policy. The diocese of Atlanta will be sending will be sending four ordained and four lay people to serve in the House of Deputies. Our bishops Neil Alexander, Keith Whitmore, and Frank Allen will represent our diocese in the House of Bishops.

During the Sundays in July during Adult Christian Education hour we will examine some of the issues under discussion and follow the decisions made affecting our life together. Please keep the delegates, bishops, and our church in your prayers.

Music 101

Eleven folks are signed up for the free MUSIC READING 101 CLASS being offered at St. Gabe's on July 8th, 22nd, and 29th from 7:00 - 8:30. If you are still interested but have yet to sign up, let Carla know, or go directly to the registration form at:

<http://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?hl=en&formkey=cm8wdE0teEICUIdXR0IVSnP4d2x5a3c6MA..>

This same form can also be accessed by going to our church website at: www.saintgabriels.org click VIEW OUR WEBSITE at the bottom, click MUSIC PROGRAM on the left, click MUSIC READING 101 REGISTRATION FORM

Men's Ministry

The Men's Group met Saturday, June 20, at Curt's restaurant. A discussion, led by Kevin Flack, about the financial and volunteer labor needs for the demolition of the church trailer was the first subject on the agenda. After much discussion, it was decided that the Men's Group treasury would donate \$500.00 to the project. Also, when a date is scheduled for the demolition, a sign up sheet for volunteer labor would be posted in the Parish Hall. It was also brought to our attention the need for funds to send Carla Strott to music camp. It was decided to make available \$200.00. The meeting was closed with the Lord's prayer.

The next meeting will be July 18 at Curt's at 7:15. All men at St. Gabriel's are encouraged to join in.

Flower Guild

Did you know.....

Our St. Gabriel's Flower Guild is a year old? The beautiful floral arrangements you see each Sunday at St. Gabriel's are provided by devoted volunteers of the Flower Guild. The work of the Guild is a partnership between the donors who contribute money for flower memorials and thanksgivings, and members of the Guild who give their time to obtain the materials and create the arrangements. The flowers in the church are funded entirely by donations from members and friends of the parish, not from the church operating budget. Flower donations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. To sponsor flowers on a particular Sunday, sign up on the wall calendar that is posted in the hall and then submit a check for \$35 to the parish administrator, clearly marked with "Flower Guild". Checks can be left in the bin next to the Parish Administrator's door. You may dedicate the flowers in celebration or in memory of any person or event you choose, which is then recognized in the Sunday bulletin.

The Flower Guild is always eager to welcome new members. No previous floral design is required, and novice arrangers are paired with experienced designers as they learn. All you need is a desire to learn and a love of beauty! Please contact Margie Robins or Jan Waller if you are interested in joining this wonderful ministry.

Thank You,

Jana Brown

St. Gabriel's Worship Committee Chairperson

Book Club

We are not meeting in July as we are reading "Pillars of the Earth" by Ken Follett. It is a large book so we are taking a month to read it. We will meet to discuss "Pillars of the Earth in August on the 13th in the Parish Hall at 10:00 a.m. We would love to have others join us and we have some really lively discussions. Our book for September is "The Agony and The Ecstasy", probably we will meet on September 10. Hope to see some new folks join us.



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2009 VESTRY

Kevin Flack – Senior Warden, Building and Grounds
 Wink Porterfield – Junior Warden, Stewardship
 Noble Shaw – Parish Care
 David Holmes – Congregational Development
 Jana Brown – Worship
 Jana Bennett – Outreach
 Diedre Page – Christian Education
 Cheryl Rothschild – Finance
 Paul Swanson – Communication

STAFF

Rector – the Rev. William Combs
 Deacon – Sue Huff
 Parish Administrator – Darlene Knowlton
 Music Director – Carla Strott
 Treasurer – Greg Bandy
 Newsletter Editor – Sheena Lawrence

