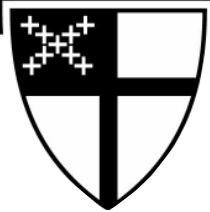


*"We are a vibrant, welcoming, and growing community of faith,
feeding the hearts, minds, and spirits of all who come."*

St. Gabriel's HERALD

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. GABRIEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Volume 9 Issue 11 November 2009



Holy-Daze

Well, the holidays are with us. If you don't believe me just check out the department stores and grocers. They have been at it for some time now. This being the case I feel that I am already a little bit behind in my "holiday sniping." I generally begin later (at least mid-November)... but, they started it.

Perhaps "sniping" is too strong for my somewhat reserved rants. The season from just before the Fall Festival through Christmas is for many of us like a free-fall through a tropical rain forest: one thing after the next is hitting you in the face so fast you can barely see what's coming much less try to hang onto a branch or a vine. And if you are like me I end up on December 26th wondering, "What just happened here?"

These are to be holidays, a word derived from the Old English word, *haligdæg*, "holy+day." Holy day. According to William Inge, "The original idea of holiness is separation; that is holy which is stamped, as it were, as belonging to God and is appropriated to Him. Holy places, things, and persons are the special property of God." When I look at my own behavior (and glance at my fellow hectic holiday hustlers) I don't see anything even close to resembling that definition. Most years, as about the tenth jungle branch has smacked me in the face, I have an "ah-ha" moment where a voice deep within asks, "How can this be holy? What am I doing to set this day/event/persons apart for God?"

It is amazing the change that asking these questions can bring. It is like actually holding onto one of those tropical rainforest branches for even a moment. A new world is opened to you: you see the wonder of the cinnamon-colored snake curled around a distant branch, the brilliant subtlety of the tree-dwelling orchids, the movement of gloriously layered birds, the cathedral sanctuary of dripping trees.

We have a great deal of activity at St. Gabriel's between now and December 26th (not to mention the dozens of activities we each have outside of this place). How do we prevent ourselves from asking, "What just happened here?" as the last refrain of "O Little Town of Bethlehem" dies away from the mall loudspeakers on Christmas Day?

Perhaps we need to be a bit intentional in asking ourselves some "ah-ha" questions along the way. For the Holy Day of All Saint's: *How am I setting this day apart to remember and celebrate my beloved deceased?* When the bishop visits: *How can we set this event apart, and celebrate with Joan and with Emory their respective confirmation and baptism, their new lives in our peculiar corner of the Body of Christ?* For the Holy Day of the marriage of Fred Skey and Olivia Erbele: *How can I offer up to God my prayers for Olivia and Fred that their life together be the special property of God? How can I set this day apart to examine my own relationships with others?* For the Holy Day of Thanksgiving: *How can I set apart my gathering with family and friends, putting aside differences and hurt feeling to give thanks to God for the gift of the people surrounding me?* For the Holy Day of our Annual Meeting: *How can I set this time apart to gather with my brothers and sisters in Christ to celebrate our life together, to listen to one another, to struggle side-by-side rather than tooth-and-nail in addressing our challenges, to give heartfelt thanks to God for the grace and love that makes our church possible?* During the Holy Days of Advent and Christmas: *How can I set this time apart to watch for God's incarnation in my midst?*

The gravity of the season will have its way. We will have the free fall, and we will land. Engaging holiness – truly setting days and events and people apart – allows us to see God at work at every step along the way. And in setting time aside to ask "holy questions" we just might be transformed by the journey, landing with peace.

Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 01 - Anne Threadgill | 20 - Jacob Spires |
| 01 - Todd Drake | 23 - Nena Head |
| 01 - Randy Baker | 26 - Bob Waller |
| 06 - Bill Caiaccio | 27 - Rosemary Bennett |
| 07 - Bill Barnes | 30 - Grace Lutumba |
| 08 - Nick Knowlton | |
| 10 - Jennie Duvall | |
| 12 - Trip LeMay | |
| 15 - John Threadgill | |
| 17 - Carly Childers | |



Lectionary

- 1 All Saints
Isaiah 25:6-9, Psalm 24,
Revelation 21:1-6a, John 11:32-44
- 8 23rd Sunday after Pentecost Proper 27
Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17, Psalm 127,
Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:38-44
- 15 24th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 28
1 Samuel 1:4-20, 1 Samuel 2:1-10,
Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18) 19-25, Mark 13:1-8
- 22 Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King
2 Samuel 23:1-7, Psalm 132:1-13, (14-19),
Revelation 1:4b-8, John 18:33-37
- 29 First Sunday of Advent
Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-9,
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36

Anniversaries



- 03 - Ray & Margie Robins
15 - David & Phyllis Settles (1947) 62 years
24 - Johnny & Paula Bridges
30 - Bill & Carol Caiaccio

Vestry Report

October 20, 2009

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

The meeting was called to order by Bill Combs at 7:00 p.m. with evening prayer and scripture.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the September 29th meeting were read. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes for the September meeting, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Greg stated that two Diocesan Pledges were made in September. It affected the cash flow, but not the overall budget. He has placed all forecasted expenses in Quick-

(Continued on page 3)

Sunday Worship

8:00 AM

Holy Eucharist - Rite I

8:45 AM – 9:15 AM

Fellowship

9:15 AM – 10:15 AM

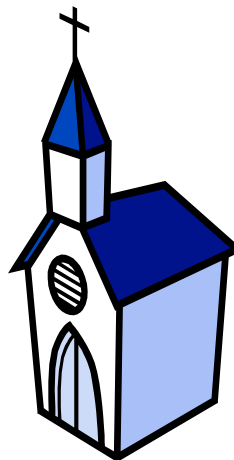
Christian Education

9:15 AM – 12:00

Nursery

10:30 AM

Holy Eucharist - Rite II



Ch'Angels

We collected \$125.71 in October for ALS. The November collection will go to Care For Our Troops. This project is approved by Bishop Alexander. It reaches the families of our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

September Financial Statement							
	Average Attendance	Budgeted Income	Actual Income	Budgeted Expenses	Actual Expenses	Loan Amortization	Net Income
September	81	\$18,912.67	\$14,944.79	\$20,032.21	\$27,188.01	\$1,771.45	\$(14,014.67)
Year to Day		\$170,214.00	\$161,392.21	\$155,649.87	\$167,159.86	\$13,997.79	\$(19,762.44)

(Continued from page 2)

Books through the end of this year. Updates will be done monthly. Greg stated that if income and expenses stay on budget through the end of the year, the year should finish with approximately:

- \$2,500 in the operating checking account.
- \$1,300 in net income before loan capitalization and amortization
 - à \$18,000 net loss after
- \$19,000 over budget
 - à \$15,000 short in income
 - à \$4,000 over in expenses
 - à December has traditionally been a big month.

This time last year:

- \$12,500 was transferred from other accounts into the operating account.

This year:

- \$6,900 has been transferred from other accounts into the operating account.
- \$6,600 was transferred out of the operating checking into the Vanguard account for designated income.
- Everyone has done a good job keeping expenses in line.

Net Income for September 2009:

- -\$14,014.67
- Operating account balance: \$3,577.05

A motion was made to accept the September Variance Report for audit. It was seconded, and the motion passed

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Outreach:

The Salvation Army has approved our request for bell ringing again this year.

- Date: December 5th
- Location: Wal-Mart
- Time: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Good News At Noon:

- 150 people served
- Lasagna and Salad served
- 6 servers

The South Hall Food Pantry received a grant from the Episcopal Charities Foundation.

- \$1,500 more than last year.
- Food Pantry has already reached total served they ended last year at.

Worship:

The flower guild is working on setting up a standard fee to charge for when they do weddings, funerals, etc.

Children's Chapel:

- Team has been established.
- Guitar music one Sunday each month.
- Program was purchased with pictures to color, puzzles, dot-to-dot, etc., with scriptural theme, and donated by Darlene Knowlton.
- Sydney Brown is temporarily tending the nursery.
 - à Sarah Moore and Melissa Moore needed a leave of absence.

Building and Grounds:

- A group from the church went over to help a parishioner who's basement flooded during the rains.
- A clean up day was discussed to be held before Bishop Whitmore comes for his visit.
 - à November 21st

Parish Care:

- Meals were provided during the month.
- A farewell reception was held for the Michael and Lyra Griffiths.
- The Fall Festival is the next big day coming up on October 24th.
 - Barbara Jean Newton is organizing the items left over from the Fall Festival.
 - Items left from the Fall Festival will be picked up on Tuesday by the Salvation Army

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(Continued from page 3)

- à Need to be boxed
- The majority of the business clothes left over will go to a shelter in Sautee.
- Some real nice items were donated from a real estate closing.
- The trailer in the parking lot will be picked up soon.
- A refrigerator was donated by Jim and Jean Waller to use in the Parish Hall.
- Bishop Whitmore is coming for a visit on November 22nd. It was noted that the Bishop receives the cash from the collection on the day of his visit.

Stewardship:

- Would like to schedule another Oblations Sunday.
 - à Possibly during the service on Annual Parish Meeting Sunday
- Stewardship information forthcoming.

Christian Education:

- J2A program was purchased
- K – 5 going bowling November 5th.
- Need teachers
 - à Will put something in the bulletin
- Jeff Guido is co-teaching J2A.

Rector's Report:

- New members transferred membership:
 - à Marshall Cheves
 - à Dennis & Reneé Duncan
- Michael and Lyra Griffiths moved to Memphis
- Attendance is down about 10%
 - à Make Flock calls
 - Need to assign Flock lists
- Stephens Ministries was suggested to be used when people lose their jobs, homes, etc.

OLD BUSINESS

Fee for Erbele-Skey wedding

A motion was made that we allow this wedding, reception, and rehearsal dinner to take place for Oliva and Fred. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

After much discussion a motion was made to establish a fee of \$500 as outlined in Olivia's proposal. The motion was seconded and passed.

There was much discussion about:

- a policy fee amount
 - o for members
 - o non-members
- wave fee amount
 - o based on need
- Fees:
 - o Nave fee
 - ✦ \$200 for members
 - o Parish Hall
 - ✦ \$100 for members
- full restoration of facilities

Amendment to the previous motion. We set our policy for weddings for church members that the rental of the Nave be \$200 and that the rental of the Parish Hall be \$50 per day.

The amendment was approved and passed.

For the Erbele-Skey wedding the fee would be \$300 for the rehearsal dinner, ceremony and reception. The party would be responsible for clean-up.

We need to have a policy for all of these items, and we need to set up a committee to establish a policy.

A motion was made that it be the discretion of the Vestry to wave part or all of a fee for events for members based on need. The motion was seconded.

There was discussion and the motion was amended to say: The vestry can wave a fee as a response to a need presented by the party, or at the request of the party.

The motion with the amendment was approved.

- Annual Council

Randi Guido and Jean Pugh agreed to serve as delegates this year.

When Bishop Whitmore visits:

- one individual will be confirmed
- one individual will be baptized.

Annual Parish Meeting:

- December 6, 2009.
- Vestry members to turn in their reports to Darlene in ample time before the meeting.
- Meeting will be the same forum as last year.
- Vestry members need to come up with slate of names to submit for Vestry election

Vestry Retreat will be held at Ft. Yargo January 22 & 23,

(Continued on page 7)

November 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00 AM Rite I 9 - 12 Nursery 9:15 Christian Ed. 10:30 AM Rite II	2 DOK 10:00AM Food Pantry 4:00—6:00 <i>staffed by Springs</i>	3 4 Quilting Ministry 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Centering Prayer 6:00—7:00 PM	4 Journey to Adulthood 7:00—8:30 PM Choir Practice 7:00—8:30 PM	5 Food Pantry 10:00—12:00 <i>staffed by CLC</i>	6 Diocesan	7 Food Pantry 10:00—12:00 <i>staffed by Springs</i> Conference
8 8:00 AM Rite I 9 - 12 Nursery 9:15 Christian Ed. 10:30 AM Rite II	9 Food Pantry 4:00—6:00 <i>staffed by</i> St. Gabriel's 7:00 PM Girl Scout Leaders	10 Quilting Ministry 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Centering Prayer 6:00—7:00 PM	11 Journey to Adulthood 7:00—8:30 PM Choir Practice 7:00—8:30 PM	12 10:00 AM Book Club Food Pantry 10:00—12:00 <i>staffed by CLC</i>	13	14 ALS Walk Food Pantry 10:00—12:00 <i>staffed by</i> St. Gabriel's
15 8:00 AM Rite I 9 - 12 Nursery 9:15 Christian Ed. 10:30 AM Rite II	16 Food Pantry 4:00—6:00 <i>staffed by</i> Lanier	17 Quilting Ministry 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Centering Prayer 6:00—7:00 PM Vestry 7:00PM	18 Journey to Adulthood 7:00—8:30 PM Choir Practice 7:00—8:30 PM	19 Food Pantry 10:00—12:00 <i>staffed by CLC</i>	20	21 8:30—Noon Parish Clean Up Men's Ministry 7:15 AM at Curt's Food Pantry 10:00—12:00
22 8:00 AM Rite I 9 - 12 Nursery 9:15 Christian Ed. 10:30 AM Baptism an Confirmation Bishop Whitmore	23 Food Pantry 4:00—6:00 <i>staffed by CLC</i>	24 Quilting Ministry 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Centering Prayer 6:00—7:00 PM	25	26 1:00 P.M. Thanksgiving Dinner at St. Gabe's	27 Rehearsal and Dinner	28 Food Pantry 10:00—12:00 <i>staffed by CLC</i> Fred & Olivia's Wedding 4:30 PM
29 9 - 12 Nursery 9:15 Christian Ed. 10:30 Combined Service Lessons and Carols	30 Food Pantry 4:00—6:00 <i>staffed by OUMC</i>					

Those Who Serve

8:00 AM	November 1	November 8	November 15	November 22	November 29
OT	Randi Guido	Anne Porterfield	Bill Caiaccio	Bob Milledge	Combined Service
NT	Mark Guido	Bob Milledge	Edith Collins	Sandy Kiddie	
Prayers	Sandy Kiddie	Wink Porterfield	Mark Guido	Randi Guido	
Chalice	Paul Swanson	Edith Collins	Wink Porterfield	Paul Swanson	
Usher/Greeter	M & R Robins	P & D Swanson	Ed & Pat Wood	P & P Brown	
Refreshments	Pat Wood	Esther Atkinson	The Swansons	The Ashes	

10:30 AM

OT	Ruth Thompson	Kelley Ceccato	Mimi Cundiff	Rich LeMay	Anne Porterfield
NT	Laura Ward	Nenion Conley	Olivia Erbele	Grace Lutumba	Julia Mosley
Prayers	Kim Bennett	Trudy Buggeln	Beth Holmes	Chris Kern	Wink Porterfield
Crucifer	TBA	Erin Lutumba	Maryann Bandy	Erin Lutumba	TBA
Choir	Nicholas LeMay	Sam Combs	Rachel Bandy	Patsheko Lutumba	Sam Combs
Lectern	Patsheko Lutumba	Nicholas LeMay	Emily Combs	Trip LeMay	Nicholas LeMay
Children's Chapel	Jana Brown	Jennifer Combs	Rich LeMay	D & B Holmes	No Children's Chapel
Chalice (2)	Bob Condon Jean Pugh	Cheryl Rothschild Noble Shaw	Jackie Richards Bob Condon	Jean Pugh Cheryl Rothschild	Noble Shaw Edith Collins
Oblations	Holmes Family	LeMay Family	Lutumba Family	Cundiff Family	Holmes Family
Ushers (2)	D & D Duncan	D & B Holmes	J & G Pugh	B & D Condon	B & C Caiaccio
Greeters (2)	J & G Pugh	S & J Brown	B & D Condon	D & D Duncan	K & C Flack
Verger	Trudy Buggeln	Noble Shaw	Trudy Buggeln	Noble Shaw	Trudy Buggeln
Refreshments	The Shaws	Trudy Buggeln	The Holmes	Parish Care	Barbara Conley

Both Services

Vestry Person	Jana Brown	Noble Shaw	David Holmes	Diedre Page	Cheryl Rothschild
Altar Guild	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	Team 4: P Wood, M Robins, J Tieslau, K Bennett, R Bennett	Team 1: A & W Porterfield, J Waller, C Flack
Flowers	F Keyon-Souto	B & J Skidmore	Louise Freeman	The Ashes	Caiaccios
Flower Guild	Margie Robins	Jan Waller	Jo Tieslau	Margie Robins	Callie Flack
Holy Mowers	Fall Schedule	Lutumba and Robins	Fall Schedule	Fall Schedule	Fall Schedule
Mow by	Off	November 14 th	Off	Off	Off
Sacred Sweepers	P & D Swanson	BJ & Z Newton	Bob Condon	Combs' Family	Payne & Duncan
Clean by	November 7 th	November 14 th	November 21 st	November 28 ^h	December 5 th

(Continued from page 4)

2010.

- Paul Swanson will organize the food

NEW BUSINESS

- Anne Threadgill is making a new baptismal fount bowl.
- Community Garden where the trailer was removed in the Spring time.
 - o Food Pantry get excess
 - o Any one in need
 - o Leadership for project:
 - à Girl Scout Gold project

An e-mail was received from the Hall County Sheriff's Office for a Church Watch Program seminar on November 2, 2009 which Darlene Knowlton will be attending.

The meeting closed with prayer, and Bill adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Knowlton
Vestry Clerk

Parish Clean Up Day

With Bishop Whitmore's visit and Olivia Erbele and Fred Skey's wedding the next weekend it is time for us to do a little cleaning! On Saturday, November 21st from 8:30-noon we will be having a fall clean-up day. Bring a rake, a trowel, pruners, or a wheelbarrow and pitch in to make St. Gabriel's neat and

Advent Lessons and Carols

Our annual festival of Lessons and Carols for the Advent season will be Sunday, November 29th during a combined service beginning at 10:30 am. The lessons and carols will take the place of "The Service of the Word" in our Holy Eucharist for that morning. Please be sure to mark your calendars for this wonderful occasion to inaugurate our season of Advent.

Thanksgiving Day

Plans are under way for a Thanksgiving Pot Luck supper here at St. Gabriel's on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26 at 1:00 p.m.. Whether you are single or married, living alone or with a crowd join us for fun and fellowship as we give thanks to God for the many gifts in our lives. Besides the food we will plan on having games and (TV reception permitting) some football to watch. Sign-ups are in the Parish Hall.

ALS Walk



The 2009 Walk to Defeat ALS on Saturday November 14 in Atlanta is fast approaching! Our first year, Melissa Kern's team placed third in the state with over \$15,000 raised, and our walking team drew a lot of attention in their costumes. This year, we plan on more of the same -- More crazy costumes, more walkers and more fun! The Walk is sponsored by the ALS Association of Georgia, which is one of only two organizations that provide help to people with ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease), like Melissa. So please consider supporting Melissa by joining the walk or making a donation to the team. A website is set up to help you with this.

To become a FIVER'S TEAM member, join us in the walk and find supporters, visit -- <http://www.ProjectFiver.com/walk> OR to make a donation and support Melissa in her walk visit <http://projectfiver.com/support>.

Annual Council

The 103rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Atlanta will be gathering at the Cathedral of St. Philip on Friday, November 6 and Saturday, November 7. The delegates from St. Gabriel's are Jean Pugh, Randi Guido, Rev. Sue Huff, and Rev. Bill Combs. This year's council is honored to welcome the Presiding Bishop, Katharine Jefferts-Schori as the guest speaker. While the council itself is closed to just the delegates all are welcome to attend the Eucharist (the Presiding Bishop will be the preacher and celebrant) on Friday afternoon at 5:00 in the Cathedral, as well as a barbeque picnic Saturday at noon on the Cathedral grounds.

Fall Festival 2009

We celebrated our Fall Festival on October 24th, and by every measure it was a great success. The food was great, the fellowship was tremendous, the weather was cool but dry, and we got to clean out those closets and attics to make room for the stuff we bought at the yard sale!!!

Financially we did far better than our previous year, and better than we anticipated during these tight economic times. The preliminary breakdown is as follows:

Bake Sale	109.80
BBQ	1,200.00
Books	96.85
Booths	30.00
Breakfast	131.92
Cake Walk & Youth	200.75
Crafts	75.00
GPS Raffle	168.00
Lace Tablecloth Raffle	141.00
Quilt Raffle	65.00
Yard Sale	1,163.28
Misc.	22.00
Total gross	3,397.60

Bishops Visit



The Rt. Rev. Keith Whitmore will be joining us on Sunday, November 22nd for both morning services. At the 10:30 service he will be confirming Joan Cunningham into the Episcopal Church, and baptizing Emory Burkhead. Between services he will be leading our Adult Christian Education hour.

Bishop Whitmore came to the Diocese in Atlanta in 2008 as Bishop Alexander's assistant bishop from the Diocese of Eau Claire (Wisconsin) where he was retired. Bishop Whitmore and Suzie, his wife of 40+ years, have two grown children. Bishop Whitmore has been a tremendous gift to our diocese and we are pleased to welcome him to St. Gabriel's for his first visit. You will have an opportunity to get to know him better during the 9:15-10:15 hour as well as during our refresh-

African Team Ministries

They're baaaaaccckkk... We are glad to once again offer goods from African Team Ministries. This ministry acquires decorative items and jewelry created in villages in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Rwanda and offers them for



sale in Episcopal, Methodist, and Presbyterian churches. The funds raised provide for orphan and refugee relief, missions and evangelism in East Africa. The products will be available

Book Club

The book club choice for November is "The Art of Racing In The Rain, by Garth Stein, and for December: The Cat Who Saw Stars by Lillian Braun. We will meet November 12 and December 10 at 10:00 a.m. in the parish hall.



SANT GABRIEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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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
 Kim 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

