

A Slice of HAM

The Church of the Holy Apostles and the Mediator

October 2011



Notes From the Interim Rector

Africa Sunday is a milestone for me. It was a little later last year, October 17, and it was my first Sunday at HAM—I had been asked to supply for two Sundays, but I am still around—so it is the first anniversary of my time with you. I will frankly confess that I love being here in this parish of wonderful people who have made me feel so welcome.

In previous issues of A Slice of H.A.M., we have talked about the formal goals the Vestry has set for 2011-2012: Education (for adults and youth), Communications, and Facilities (both the condition of the facilities and possible expanded use).

I'd like to suggest three more informal congregational goals.

First: **GROWTH**. Most members of most parishes will *say* they want to grow, but their actions demonstrate otherwise. They like a parish in which “everybody knows everybody,” which is certainly comfortable, but violates the Great Commission Jesus gave all Christians to “go and make disciples.” (*Matthew 28:19*) Jesus adds, “of all nations.” Which does not mean, for the average parish, sending missionaries to faraway places, but absolutely does mean being open to members of every race and class and culture.

I once read that the average Episcopalian invites someone to

church once every 28 years!!! Near where I live, there is a Presbyterian church which is growing by leaps and bounds (my grandson attends their gangbuster youth group, even though he is an Episcopalian). Why is it growing? Because members tell their friends about their church and invite them to give it a try. I know that we Episcopalians tend to be reticent people. We are not called “God’s frozen chosen” for nothing. But you can offer that invitation. You really can.

I want to set a modest goal. My non-scientific guess is that our average Sunday attendance ranges 45-60 people. My very achievable goal is that by this time next year our average Sunday attendance be 75 people. Notice I’m not setting any unrealistic goal—like 200—just 75. All you have to do is say to your neighbor or friend what Philip said to Nathanael about Jesus: “Come and see.” (*John 1:46*)

Second: **MUSIC**. An inspiring Sunday morning service has three components: the reverence with which the Eucharist is celebrated, the quality of the preaching, and the quality of the music. Simply put, we need a larger choir—which would enable the choir to sing anthems at the offertory and during communion, and provide stronger support for

congregational singing. We are deeply grateful to those presently in the choir, and surely among the members of our congregation we have enough people who sing well enough to double the size of the choir. Have you heard the old saying (sometimes attributed to Saint Augustine) “He who sings prays twice”? Don’t be shy! Do what Psalm 100 tells you to do: “Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.” Please speak to Byron.

Third: **SERVICE**. In the next year I would like HAM to identify one need in our neighborhood, in addition to our food ministry, which we could meet. I have no idea what that might be. At last year’s Annual Meeting, a suggestion was made that we might develop a ministry to single, working mothers. That’s just one idea among many possibilities. Finding and meeting someone’s need is, of course, part of the Great Commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Pragmatically, identifying and meeting one need would heighten our visibility in the neighborhood and might even result in neighbors deciding to become part of the life, worship, witness, fellowship and service of that beautiful church at the corner of 51st & Spruce.

Faithfully,

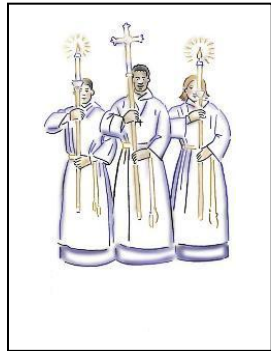
Edward Garrison

African Sunday October 2nd



From its smallest country the Seychelles Islands to its largest the Sudan, from the northern most tip Cape Blanc in Tunisia to its Southern most tip Cape Agulhas in South Africa there are 53 nations in Africa. The second largest and the second most populous continent on our planet, Africa is home to 680 million people that speak more than 2100 languages. Rich in natural resources like petroleum, gold, diamonds, copper, bauxite, uranium, platinum, nickel, & silver. But none of those assets are as precious as those men, women and children of Africa that call Holy Apostles home! Today they celebrate their cultural heritage.

National Acolyte Festival



The 32nd Annual National Acolyte Festival scheduled for Saturday, October 8th has been cancelled. Repair work continues due to extensive damage to the Cathedral's spires caused by The August 23rd earthquake. 5 weeks later, Cathedral officials are making week-by-week decisions on its reopening.

The quake did the most damage to the Cathedral's center tower, the highest elevated point in Washington, D.C. Several flying buttresses on the eastern side of the building are cracked. Most church services, cathedral tours and organ recitals have been canceled or have been moved to other venues.

Holy Apostles has attended the festival for the past 11 years. The HAM contingent, headed by Acolyte Leader Adele Thomas will represent HAM at the 2012 Acolyte Festival for a celebration of rededication, Holy Eucharist and an afternoon of workshops.

The Festival is traditionally held the second Saturday in October.

Diocesan Convention



Episcopal Diocese
of Pennsylvania

Where it all began!

Annual Diocesan Convention will be held **Saturday, November 5, 2011**, at the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

HAM will be sending 2 convention deputies (Pattie Burchette-Davis and Sonya Riggins-Furrow) and one alternate (Marcia Hinton) to this year's convention.

The theme of this year's 228th Convention is "The Mission of the Church." In his *Call to Convention* letter, Bishop Bension stated "May the 228th Convention occasion our commitment to God's mission – the *missio dei* – with all new energy and creativity."

Friday Family Night Kick Off

On September 9th the Roundtable and Girls Friendly Society kicked off their activities for the 2011/2012 school year. The evening started with hot dogs straight off the grill and was capped by the giveaway of fully stocked book bags.

The generous donations by HAM family of school supplies through their Stuff the Bus and book bags donated by the City of Philadelphia, 20 neighborhood children got a great head start on their school needs.

Special thanks to the young ladies of Girls Friendly for their help assembling the book bags, to the leadership of Roundtable & GFS for their continued outreach commitment and to everyone for their donations.



News of the Daughters of the King

Edna Carroll Chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King will meet at 10:00 AM on **October 15th** in the Parish House. The focus of study is The Shulammite Woman. Mrs. Julia Maddy is Study Leader.

Diocese of Pennsylvania **Fall Assembly** will be held October 29th at Good Samaritan Episcopal Church in Paoli, PA. Please let Mrs. Claire Nelson know if you will be attending. The cost is \$10.00.

Community Food Pantry

The Community Food Pantry of has Bible Study every Thursday at 10:30 AM. All are welcome. Senior Boxes will be distributed on **Wednesday, October 26th beginning at 11:30 AM**. Community Food distribution will be Thursday, **October 27th at 11:30 AM**. The Pantry is open for emergency needs Mondays and Thursdays please contact Rev. Furlow or Mrs. Helen Allen if you or family member is in need of food.

The Food Pantry is collecting food for Thanksgiving Baskets. Please see Bulletin Board for the complete list of foods needed. Thank You!

ECW 15th Annual Women's Day



"God Uses Ordinary Women to Accomplish His Divine Purpose"

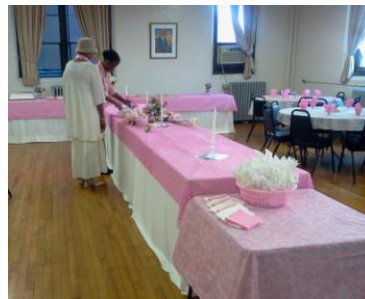
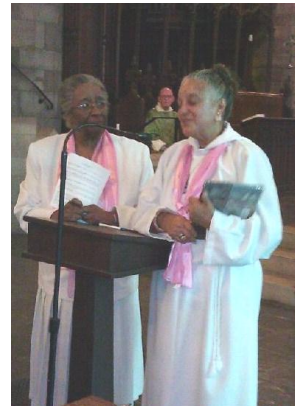


The women of ECW welcomed Rhonda Spaulding as guest speaker for the 15th Annual Women's Day. Mrs. Spaulding, First Lady of Deliverance Evangelistic Church gave a powerful talk about humility and being a ready vessel for God's work. In addition, the church was treated to a solo of "Ordinary People" sung by Mrs. Spaulding which beautifully underscored the Women's Day theme "God Uses Ordinary Women to Accomplish His Divine Purpose". Accompanying Mrs. Spaulding was a liturgical dance troupe who enthralled with movement set to sacred song.

Joy Miller sang a riveting blues inspired gospel solo and accompanied herself on electric guitar. The service also included the installation of 2011/2012 ECW officers. Congratulations are extended to Alberta Williams (President), Helen Allen (Vice President), Adele Thomas (Secretary) and Udean Morris (Treasurer).

Continuing the ECW tradition of honoring an outstanding member for their dedication and service, this year Adele Thomas was selected for her tireless work in the life of the church. Kudos to the selection committee and congratulations to Adele!

Guests of ECW were invited to a luncheon in the Parish Hall after the service.



...and Now a Word From the Vestry

To keep the congregation informed on the programs, activities and outreach of the Vestry and the church the Vestry will have a monthly column in the Church newsletter.

Kitchen Renovations

In September the vestry began Phase 1 of the Kitchen renovations. The funds for this project are from the Kitchen envelopes found in your offering boxes. The objective of the renovations is to have a commercial grade kitchen that meets all city health codes. Commercial grade kitchens must have metal cabinets and shelves. In the coming months the floor will also be removed and a new stove will be ordered. In addition a pass-through will be made on the shared wall of the kitchen and Fellowship Hall. The work on Phase 1 is being done by a group of volunteers but as the project progress professionals will be employed. It is the hope of the vestry that Phase 1 will be completed by the end of 2011.

Ramp

By now you have been informed by your Shepherd that we did not get funding for the ramp, but do not be dismayed the Vestry is working on new ideas and ways to accomplish this objective to make the church more accessible.

Adult Education and Sunday School

Evangelist Furlow is conducting adult Bible Study classes on Thursday from 10:30AM-12 noon. This Adult class is intended primarily for those who benefit from our food ministry.

Father Garrigan is will be offering a adult class the First Wednesday of each month Oct 5th, Nov 2nd, Dec. 7th. Topics will be wide ranging but will include the history, traditions text/services and ceremonies of the Episcopal Church. This class will also serve as an Adult Inquirers' Class for those interested in becoming members of the Episcopal Church." There will be a sign-up and a light meal served at the classes. All are invited to join. This will be in addition to our regular Advent and Lenten Wednesday education classes.

Vestry members Boima Sonni, Clare Nelson and Angela Harris-Thompson are seeking interested volunteers to teach

youth school and to develop a program to engage young adults in our church family. If you have any suggestions or would like to be involved see one of the above named vestry members.

Facilities and Property Usage

The Vestry will be instituting new procedures for renting and/or using the church for events (weddings, funerals, meetings etc) for parishioners and non-parishioners. The new Event committee consist of Marcia Hinton 215-472-3000 (Church secretary) Janis Moore 215-471-0815 (Vestry secretary) and Everett Gillison Jr. Warden (Property chair). A tri-fold handout will be made available (November 2011) to individuals interested in renting and/or using the facilities

Calendar Calls and Annual Reports & Budgets

All church organizations (ECW, GFS, Brotherhood, Caribbean Sunday, African Sunday, Taste of the World, Acolytes, DOK, Food Outreach) must submit their proposed dates for events next year no later than November 1, 2011.

All annual reports and proposed budgets are due December 1, 2011. NO EXCEPTIONS, NO LATE SUBMISSIONS.

Stewardship

The Vestry is looking for individuals to become members of the Stewardship Committee. Interested individuals should contact Rev. Garriagan or Senior Warden Iola Harper.

Good News

Our Food Ministry Coordinator Evangelist Furlow reported that Shop-Rite Supermarket credited the HAM food bank account at Philabundance with \$1000 for outstanding service to the community to help further our outreach. A letter of thanks has been sent to Shop Rite thanking them for assisting HAM with it Food Ministry.

“God can use the little we have to accomplish great things”

Until next month,
Your Vestry

2012	2013	2014
Clare Nelson Sonya Riggins Furlow, Evangelist Boima Sonii	Everett Gillison, People's Warden Iola Harper, Senior Warden Janis Moore	Angela Harris-Thompson Byron Golson, Director of Music David Miller

Please Support Girls Friendly

GFS Annual Spaghetti Dinner!!!

Girls Friendly Society will be hosting their annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser. Please come out and support our youth! Proceeds will help with our supplies and activities!

Date: 10/16/2011

Time: after church service



Costs: \$6.00 (Dinner & Salad)

For further info contact: Angela Harris-Thompson, Branch Advisor



Girls Friendly Society

October Events

Special Events

- African Sunday 10/2
- Girls Friendly Spaghetti Dinner 10/16
- Senior Food Box Distribution 10/26
- Community Food Distribution 10/27
- ECW/ Virginia Chriclow Dream Pantry Party 10/29

On-going Events

- Noonday Prayer (1st & 3rd Tuesdays) 10/5 & 10/19
- Noon day Bible Study (2nd & 4th Wednesday) 10/12 & 10/26
- Food Pantry Bible Study (Thursdays@ 10:30 AM) 10/6, 10/13, 10.20 & 10/27
- First Wednesday Adult Bible Study(6:00 PM) 10/5
- Family Friday Night (1st Friday) 10/7
- Choir Practice (Tuesday evenings) 10/4, 10/11, 10/18 & 10/25
- Usher Guild Meeting (1st Sunday) 10/2
- ECW Meeting (2nd Sunday) 10/9
- Vestry Meeting (3rd Sunday) 10/16



10/2 African Sunday
10/16 DOK

10/9 ECW
10/23 Brotherhood

10/30 Roundtable

- 1 **Julia Maddy**
Shirley Warner
Da'Kayah Seay- Johnson
- 13 **Patrick Osuagwu**
- 16 **Harriet Logan**
- 17 **Pattie Burchette Davis**
Florence Charman
- 30 **Bryon Golson**



Anniversaries

10/2 Gary & Angela Thompson
10/3 Richard & Shirley Warner

10/17 Barry & Thelma Carter
10/9 Joseph & Alberta Williams

Memorials

10/11/09 Spencer F. Davis
10/20/90 Samuel Graves
10/29/94 Ralph Lewis
10/14/99 Christine Clark

10/25/89 George Gorgas
10/18/92 Lawrence F. Harris
10/25/98 Alice Clarke
10/20/01 Margaret E. Wyche

10/31/89 George H. Burton
10/2/94 Enos Morris, III
10/8/99 Betty Jane Wilson

**Church of the
Holy Apostles and
The Mediator**

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Organist/Choir Director: Byron Golson ▪ byrongolson@yahoo.com

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Praise the Lord

Sunday- Holy Eucharist & Sermon 10:00 AM

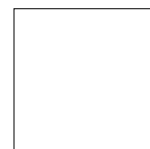
2nd & 4th Wednesday Bible Study - Noon

1st Wednesday- Light Supper & Adult Education 6:00PM

(1st Wednesdays begins October 5)

Thursday Empowerment Bible Study Series 10:30-11:15

**CHURCH OF THE
HOLY APOSTLES
AND THE MEDIATOR**
51ST & SPRUCE STREETS
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19139



We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.hamphilly.org
