

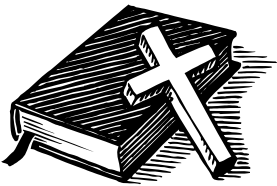
# MAGNIFICAT

PARISH NEWS FROM THE ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LADY EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
MAY 2009

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## FROM THE RECTOR



Spring is finally in the air. Thank the Lord! Holy Week and Easter are past and what a glorious time it was. I want to thank the

Altar Guild for their tireless work and devotion in the preparation of the church for the services. Ron and the Choir did a magnificent job yet again. The services for Easter showed the largest attendance in seven years. What a presentation we made to our community! I am so very proud of that. A longtime member sent me an email stating that he could not find parking when he arrived for the ten o'clock service. What a problem to have to address! God is good.

You have probably seen the new paint and chair rails in the parish hall. Yes, it looks really good! The work is professional quality and the thanks for this spectacular upgrade to our look goes to the Building and Grounds team. I was simply speechless as I walked in and saw the finished work for the first time. The B&G team went beyond all my expectation and delivered a

gift to the parish in this work of love. After seeing what it could look like, there are several folks who are interested in upgrading other components in the parish hall. Be on the lookout from the Parish Life team for a few ideas that could be gifted to the parish.

With all of this accomplishment, you would think that we will now coast into the summer and enjoy some time off soon....but oh no! This is Annunciation! The next month actually is a very critical time for our parish. We have the April 26 planning session where parish comes together to plan the "Green Season" (that time from Pentecost till Advent – May through November). The planning sessions are held about 4-5 times a year and rather than rely upon the workings of committees to plan our ministries, we utilize this town-hall approach at planning together what we are interested in doing. Everything from Outreach to parties, from education to special liturgies. This is how we function in this parish. It is vitally important that you attend these seasonal meetings to participate. It makes our planning fun and it reflects your interests and ideas. These are times when someone can come forward with a new idea or offer to lead a project that we have done for years.

Also on the horizon is our second Table discussion. This is a time when we gather as a community to discuss larger questions while getting to know who the people are in our parish. We take the entire parish on a Sunday and divide up into small groups led by a trained facilitator to ask two to three key questions that will help your leadership direct the future of our parish. This Table discussion was held once before and the overwhelming response was that we must do this again. Why? Because

people had a real opportunity to be in dialogue with fellow parishioners whom they probably had not previously had much contact with. The benefit to our parish is twofold: First, it provides a great opportunity for our parish to speak and hear from others about issues that are important to them and that information is used by our leadership to chart our course into the future. Secondly, it is an excellent way to have some substantive interactions with fellow parishioners – you will have a better idea of what this parish is all about. The table discussions will take place on Sunday May 17.

I ask you to please make these two events, the Seasonal Planning Sessions and the Table Discussions a priority in your participation at Annunciation. They are absolutely key to the success of our parish. When we offer these meetings, come. We have invested our parish structure around these interactions. My heartfelt thanks again goes out to the vestries over the last three years for their hard work in creating and maintaining the Growing Together Plan. Let's move forward together in conversation and prayer. One community serving our God. Alleluia Christ is risen!

See you in Church,  
Fr. Clyde+

## **FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN**

Annunciation is now in the midst of the most joyous celebration of the year: The Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Now is the time for the entire congregation of Annunciation to stimulate the growth of the parish, much as the plants are starting to bloom around the church. We have two opportunities to stimulate this growth.

The first is the parish "round table" discussion which is going to be held in May. This is a continuation of the Growing Together Plan which we adopted last year to give us our direction for the coming years. Last year, we took baby steps to get this plan in operation. As

I stated at the Parish Meeting last January, we accomplished a lot of the short term goals we established. Now we are in the second year of using this plan as a guide. We must look ahead for the next several years to continue building the road map to use as a guide for the parish in its growth.

The second opportunity we have is the parish planning meeting for the Green Season. We have come a long way since the first session last October. These meetings have matured. The participants have given thoughtful ideas and suggestions. Members have stepped forward to lead the activities. Now the various ministries are beginning to coordinate with each other to insure that all aspects of the proposed activity are addressed. These planning sessions are tremendous for the exchange of ideas. These interactions are leading to a wonderful climate positive change for the entire parish and the people making them.

You are invited to attend the round table discussion and the next parish planning meeting. I am certain that you will receive the joy of knowing that you helped to make Annunciation a great Parish.

Rich Ringhofer  
Jr. Warden

## **PUBLIC ACTION TO DELIVER SHELTER (P.A.D.S)**

Dear Parish,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each one of you that has supported the PADS ministry this last season. Today we will be meeting at the church to prepare a meal for 30 or more guests. The background of these individuals is varied: some work, but can't get past that point, and have no home; some are handicapped with physical or mental problem; but the one common element they share is that they are grateful for the work and generosity the PADS program does for them. Think of yourselves being in their position. It would be certainly demoralizing for me! I have used the

statement "we are offering a hand up, not a hand out" many times before to describe the program, and I find that is true.

We followers of Christ are given two simple commandments: "Have no other God before me," and "Love one another". How simple... but how hard to follow. This ministry allows us to work on the second commandment and if we say we are too busy, then we are having a problem with the first commandment.

I am far from perfect, but I have grown spiritually from this ministry. We will continue to be making lunches during the summer months and will again offer meals next season. Please talk to Jan Harastany, Cheri Johnson, Dale Sanders or me (Mike Bill) if you would like to try out being a volunteer or a contributor. We welcome your questions.

### **Matthew 25**

<sup>35</sup> For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home.

<sup>36</sup> I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'

<sup>37</sup> "Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink?

<sup>38</sup> Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing?

<sup>39</sup> When did we ever see you sick or in prison, and visit you?'

<sup>40</sup> And the King will tell them, 'I assure you, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'

## **SOJOURNERS IN SPIRIT**

In our April women's group meeting, Maggie led discussion that began with a look at Eleanor Roosevelt, the latest in our "Women who Dared" series. Rev. Kate is sorry she missed it! We then went on to discuss relationships and significant others. Sound interesting? It always is! Join us next month for another Woman who Dared. Come for the enlightenment, stay for the fellowship. Peace-

- Maggie Attiyeh and Rev. Kate+

## **EASTER CROSS**



A big THANK YOU to everyone who brought flowers (or put in one of ours) for the Easter Cross. It was something of an experiment, and we all know those don't always turn out just right, but oh! It was beautiful.

-Rev. Kate+

## **ATRIUM NEWS**



Alleluia. The children have missed saying that word. They have missed our flower arranging work also. They have been busy during Lent though. We revisited the Parable of The Leaven work, Psalm 23, and our newest addition to the atrium, The City of Jerusalem. Thanks to Steven Kulbis, this wonderful material is available for each child to place walls and buildings where they stood when Jesus walked through ancient Jerusalem. This presentation was profound as we went through His last days on this earth. Now our atrium has a white prayer table drape and wall hanging. The flower arranging work is back on the shelf. We have placed the Alleluia prayer card on the prayer table and we have removed the purple shroud on our risen Christ crucifix for our model altar. Spring is in the air and our children are busy. Alleluia.

-Mary Oesterlein

## WHO'S IN THE PEWS



**Meet the Andersons**

John Anderson was a Methodist when he was invited to church by the twin daughters of the Rector of Grace Church in Hutchinson, Kansas in 1962. He dated the Episcopal Church through his college years and was confirmed in the Church when he was a first year teacher in a small village in SW Minnesota in 1966. He started attending Annunciation in 70's and was on the Vestry and was Treasurer in the 80's.

Death brought him closer to his faith and church in 2001 when leukemia claimed his wife of 22 years. At that time he witnessed a dozen Acts of the Holy Spirit that made their suffering easier to handle. The overall message was, "John, hang in there the best is yet to come."

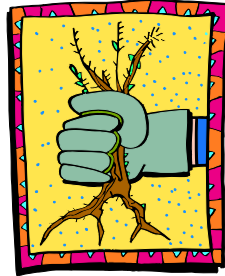
John met Carol at match.com, where her screen name was Best Yet to Come. They discovered that their dads were both watchmakers and they both worked in their parent's stores where they both played same trick on them: they set all the alarm clocks to go off and left the store. Carol's dad thought it was funny; John's didn't. Both had similar first cars. John's was a '52 Nash Rambler; Carol's was a Nash Metropolitan. The cars were the same color: cream over turquoise.

They were married in June 2003 and both are retired teachers. Carol taught at Oakdale in Waukegan; John at Mundelein High.

Both Carol and John have taken an active role at Annunciation, and they participate in many different groups and functions. Carol also chaired the Parish Life Committee for a year, and John has represented the parish at several diocesan conventions. He currently serves on the Chapter (vestry) of Saint James Cathedral.

Carol loves playing bridge and John attends monthly meetings of the Chicago Electric Railfan's Association. They both love to travel. Just ask 'em some time!

## ALL HANDS ON DECK!



We are planning an "all Parish" weed and mulch day for Saturday, May 2nd. Everyone who participates will be rewarded with a Bar-B-Q afterward. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Narthex. Plan to be there and bring your gardening gloves! Many hands make light work... not to mention a beautiful garden.

-Bill Attiyeh

## COFFEE TALK



Greetings! I know you will all be excited to learn that the new coffee hour sign-up sheets are posted! If you have never hosted coffee hour, it's easier than it looks. A copy of "Coffee Hour 101" is available to first time hosts or anyone needing a refresher. Summer is an excellent time to give it a try as a little iced tea and minimal treats are all that's needed. Do you have a favorite Sunday you like to host? Several parish couples like to host the Sunday closest to their wedding anniversary. Others like a particular holy day. Please prayerfully consider helping with this ministry. It is a wonderful welcome to newcomers and a great way to get to know those you worship with each week. Thank you.

-Angel & Chris Harold



## LET'S CELEBRATE!

If you should be on this list, and you're not,  
please make a note on the Parish  
Administrator's clipboard in the office. Thanks!

### May Birthdays:

Jenna Dent	5/1
Carolyn Ryan	5/3
Kristen Jennings	5/3
Gracie Attiyeh	5/4
Dorinda Ringhofer	5/5
Dale Sander	5/8
Elizabeth Peterson	5/8
Ava Norwood	5/8
Evan Dustan	5/11
Ken Peterson	5/12
Barb Behmke	5/12
Malcolm Elloian	5/13
Anita Murrens	5/15
Dennis Norwood	5/15
Will Hagan	5/17
Jane enticoff	5/20
Ian Pocklington	5/20
Peter Danos	5/21
Terry Stowell	5/22
Lars Lukas	5/22
Rylan Stowell	5/22
Alexandra Adkins	5/23
Rich Ringhofer	5/24
Eliane Snyder	5/25
Michael Modde	5/28
Karen Jennings	5/28
Brad Schwerman	5/28
Janis Boyke	5/31
Molly Shumate	5/31

### May Anniversaries:

Ruth & Michael Chatlien	5/5
Linda & Tony Waynick	5/6
Marge & Chuck Hocking	5/8
Cindy & Geoff Pullinger	5/11
Mary & Tom Seppala	5/12
Kathleen Kuchta & Dennis Lehman	5/15
Marsh & Jim Dent	5/19
Marilyn & Tim Grant	5/22



Our mission is to know God and to make God  
known. Our office is open Monday – Thursday  
from 9-1. The vestry members who guide our  
church are:

Maggie Attiyeh, Senior Warden  
Rich Ringhofer, Junior Warden  
Deb Gallinger  
Bill Hagan  
Laura O'Connor  
Greg Percival  
Debbie Rakestraw  
Gary Riemer  
Dale Sander

## LET'S HEAR FROM YOU

The next Magnificat is a combined issue which  
will include June & July. If you have an event  
or news item please submit it by May 20<sup>th</sup> to  
Rev. Kate at [knelledge@sbcglobal.net](mailto:knelledge@sbcglobal.net).