



# MANNA



Christ Episcopal Church, 824 Fairmont Avenue, Fairmont, WV 26554 August 2008

---

## Senior Warden Report

Kyle Hamilton

A number of important issues were discussed and acted upon at the June Vestry meeting. A \$20,000 gift (from the Johnson legacy) to the Union Mission (\$10,000 for food and \$10,000 for educational programming) was recommended by the Outreach Committee and approved by Vestry. Additionally, a \$19,450 gift was approved for Marion County Health Rite, with consent from Vestry for the committee to explore an additional gift.

Father Steve continues his quest for his next interim ministry and he is keeping Vestry apprised of every opportunity that comes his way. We will continue to support him in order to make this transition as seamless as possible.

Work on the new roof and drainage in front of the parish hall should be starting soon. Bids have been approved for the roof - we're just waiting for the contractor to start the work!

Pledge statements for the first half of the year will be sent out this month. Please review your statement carefully and make sure it matches your records. Also, if you happen to be in arrears, please make every effort to pay your pledge promptly. Operationally we are still living 'hand-to-mouth'!

The Search committee continues to work hard contacting prospective clergy for our parish. Please keep Dana Riedeman and her committee members in your prayers as they proceed through this pain-staking process.

An intriguing program entitled 'Equipping the Saints' is being promoted by the Diocese for lay persons interested in lay ministry. There will be a few brochures placed in the Narthex for anyone interested in learning more about it. The Vestry has authorized me to assist financially for anyone wanting to participate in this exciting program.

## Sacrament of Confirmation / Bishop Visitation

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered by the Rt. Rev. Michie Klusmeyer when he visits Christ Episcopal Church on Sunday, September 21, 2008.



Confirmation is a sacrament in our Church. It marks the mature adult routinely confirmed on or near their 12<sup>th</sup> birthday. Now with the 1979 Book of Common Prayer, Confirmation is to celebrate a mature adult profession of faith, with confirmed individuals taking responsibility for the baptismal vows their parents and Godparents professed on their behalf when they were baptized.

It would be wonderful for all parishioners attend our church service with the Bishop!



## Deanery Picnic

Barb Barkley

There will be a Deanery Picnic on Sunday, September 14th at 2:00 p.m. at our church. All the churches in the Deanery will be attending (parishioners included). The "picnic" will be a covered dish dinner with hot dogs and hamburgers provided. Beginning August 10th, we will have a sign-up sheet in the back of the church to know how many people will be attending. Updates will be in the bulletin, as well as in the next Manna.

A Deanery Meeting will be held after the picnic - report to follow in the October Manna.

## Christian Education

Chris Metheny

There will be a planning meeting for anyone interested in participating with this year's Christian Education on Sunday, August 17 following worship service.

We will meet in the parish hall to make plans for the upcoming kick-off Sunday, class programs, teacher assignments, and other ideas.

If you can't attend the meeting, please contact Chris Metheny with your thoughts and contributions. Our Kids are the Future of our Church Growth.

## Sauce and Meatball Sale

Central United Methodist Church (3rd Street and Fairmont Ave.) are holding a Sauce and Meatball Sale. Sauce and meatballs will be available for pick-up on Saturday, August 9th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. All proceeds go to the Soup Opera.



The public is being asked to PRE-ORDER their pasta sauce and meatballs prior to August 9th. Otherwise, sauce and meatballs will be sold on a "first come / first serve" basis. Please call 367-1098 by August 5th.

Sauce & 6 Meatballs	\$7.00
Sauce Only	\$5.00
6 Meatballs Only	\$5.00

## Christ Church Ministry

Barb Barkley

We want to help! Christ Church members would like to reach out and assist those with ANY need. We will transport to church or to a doctor's appointment, bring in meals when needed, do grocery shopping, or pick up and deliver medications. Whatever the need, we will try and assist. This ministry can only work if YOU let us know what your need is!

Also, if anyone in the congregation knows of a need, please let us know. Please call Barbara Barkley at work (367-0232) or at home (366-7149), or contact Bessie at the church office (366-3471).



If you have a need, no matter how big or small, we are here to help.



After a few of the usual Sunday evening hymns, the church's pastor slowly stood up, walked over to the pulpit and, before he gave his sermon for the evening, he briefly introduced a guest minister who was in the service that evening. In the introduction, the pastor told the congregation that the guest minister was one of his dearest childhood friends and that he wanted him to have a few moments to greet the church and share whatever he felt would be appropriate for the service. With that, an elderly man stepped up to the pulpit and began to speak.

"A father, his son, and a friend of his son were sailing off the Pacific coast," he began. "when a fast approaching storm blocked any attempt to get back to the shore. The waves were so high, that even though the father was an experienced sailor, he could not keep the boat upright and the three were swept into the ocean as the boat capsized."

The old man hesitated for a moment, making eye contact with two teenagers who were, for the first time since the service began, looking somewhat interested in his story. The aged minister continued with his story, "grabbing a rescue line, the father had to make the most excruciating decision of his life: to which boy would he throw the other end of the life line. He only had seconds to make the decision. The father knew that his son was a Christian and he also knew that his son's friend was not. The agony of his decision could not be matched by the torrent of waves.

As the father yelled out, "I love you, son!" he threw out the lifeline to his son's friend. By the time the father had pulled the friend back to the capsized boat, his son had disappeared beneath the raging swells into the black of night. His body was never recovered.



By this time, the two teenagers were sitting up straight in the pew, anxiously waiting for the next words to come out of the old minister's mouth. "The father," he continued, "knew his son would step into eternity with Jesus and he could not bear the thought of his son's friend stepping into an eternity without Jesus. Therefore, he sacrificed his son to save the son's friend. How great is the love of God that he should do the same for us. Our heavenly father sacrificed his only begotten son that we could be saved. I urge you to accept his offer to rescue you and take a hold of the lifeline he is throwing out to you in this service."

With that, the old man turned and sat back down in his chair as silence filled the room. The pastor again walked slowly to the pulpit and delivered a brief sermon.

Within minutes after the service ended, the two teenagers were at the old man's side. "That was a nice story," politely stated one of them, "but I don't think it was very realistic for a father to give up his only son's life in hopes that the other boy would become a Christian."

"Well, you've got a point there," the old man replied, glancing down at his worn bible. A big smile broadened his narrow face. He once again looked up at the boys and said, "It sure isn't very realistic, is it? But, I'm standing here today to tell you that story gives me a glimpse of what it must have been like for God to give up his son for me.

You see... **I was that father and your pastor is my son's friend.**"



## **Convention Date Change (A Letter from Bishop Klusmeyer)**

---

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Over the past couple of years, we have been working diligently to move Diocesan Convention to a Fall date, in order to provide clearer financial information and to project more accurate budget considerations.

At the 2006 Convention at Pipestem the Standing Committee, Diocesan Council and I approved having the 2008 Convention in Morgantown. We chose Lakeview Hotel as our venue, and we began to work on that. Our contract with Lakeview clearly stated that we would have our choice of 'non-home football games,' in order to keep the room-rate lower.

Many months ago, WVU announced that the weekend of September 26, 27 and 28, 2008 would be a 'non-conference, away game.' We began the search for keynote speakers, and announced that weekend as our Convention Weekend.

I have now discovered something new. ESPN has much more power and control over football schedules than anyone else. About 6 or 8 weeks ago, I was told that ESPN had changed the WVU football schedule, and that the weekend we had chosen for our Convention was now to be the WVU-Marshall Game, in Morgantown.

Obviously this has changed many things. We had to wait to see when the rest of the schedule would be released, as Lakeview would not commit to dates until the full schedule was released. We had to notify our speakers and presenters to see if they would be available on other dates. And we even looked to see if we could retain the dates, but move the venue.

Finally, today I have received notification that Lakeview (Morgantown) will be the venue for our Diocesan Convention on October 24, 25, 26, 2008.

**Please note this change of dates! Diocesan Convention will be October 24, 25, 26!**

I realize that many Delegates to Convention may have already made their plans according to the previous dates. I apologize for any confusion, and hope that all those previously elected will still be able to attend.

I am happy to report that the Very Reverend Ian Markum, Dean of Virginia Theological Seminary, will be our Keynote speaker, and should be a wonderful treat for the Diocese of West Virginia.

More information will be forthcoming as plans now get underway for a joyous celebration of the Ministries of the Diocese of West Virginia.

God bless you.

In Christ,

The Rt Rev W Michie Klusmeyer, VII Bishop, Diocese of West Virginia



## July 10, 2008 Message from Stephen Day

---

Greetings from Africa!

I have been hesitant to make a request like this for several months, but this is a situation that I felt moved and called to share with the people of St. Mark's. Msalato Theological College, where I am working, is largely financed through the support of generous donors who fund scholarships (also called sponsorships) for its students. Many of those scholarships are organized through the efforts of missionaries who work here. They contact people in their home parishes and diocese and encourage donations. I am somewhat hesitant to take part in that system because I believe the school needs to find a long-term funding system without relying on year-to-year support from abroad.

Despite this, there is a case that I felt deserved to be considered. I was informed about this young woman by her aunt who works here at Msalato. The young woman is named Damalis Benjamini and lives in a village outside of Dodoma called Loje. Her father was a leader in the local parish and served as a catechist. He died a few years ago and left the family with no money or sources of income. Damalis' mother is now dying and she will soon be an orphan. Some of her relatives want her to marry a man who already has two wives and if she has no other options she will likely be forced to marry him. She does not want to take part in a polygamist marriage (which, the Tanzanian Church frowns upon these non-monogamous relationships). Damalis wants to go to school and acquire some job skills. In particular, she wants to come and be a part of Msalato's secretarial school. In Tanzania, the unemployment rate is about five times higher than in the United States. There are very few jobs and lots of people needing employment. The one key to getting a job here is training and education. Education is very expensive here, but it is essential to a viable future.

This young woman is a faithful Christian who longs to support herself and serve Christ. She has no one to turn to. Her only option is to become the third wife of a man who will have to support three families. Now I must ask for your prayers and for you to consider helping to sponsor this young woman's studies in the one-year secretarial program here at Msalato. Her aunt will be one of her main teachers so she will be able to ensure she is doing her work and learning everything she needs to learn. The cost for one year of studies at Msalato is 850,000 Tanzanian Shillings, which is about \$850 US.

**I encourage you to prayerfully consider this situation and consider giving what you can. The difficulty is that the new school term starts on August 4.** If I know that money is coming she can come provisionally for a month or so while the funds are collected, but I cannot do that on my own. Again I ask that you pray for Damalis and her family. I also ask that consider what you can do to help. Thank you for your continued prayers and support for me and the work I am doing here.

If you feel called and able to give in support of the training and education of Damalis and the work that is going on here at Msalato Theological College I encourage you to write a check to the Diocese of West Virginia at PO Box 5400, Charleston, WV, 25361. Please make sure to put "Msalato Scholarship", "Tanzania Scholarship" or "Msalato" on the memo line of your check. Thank you again.

Yours in Christ,

Stephen Day



**Contact Information**

If you have any issues you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact one of the vestry members.

Vestry Member	Phone Number	Email Address
Kent Brown	366-9445	wkbrown@access.k12.wv.us
Toni Balenger	363-7815	nonatoniwv@yahoo.com
Kyle Hamilton	366-5148	kyle@wilsonfordlm.com
Ann Heim	366-5580	-----
Neal Hamilton	366-2000	-----
Mike Lawson	366-0759	mike.lawson@novelis.com
Sally Tennant	287-2515	sjotennant@aol.com
Carla Wood	363-7938	carla414@msn.com
Jeff Wallace	594-1436	jeffmwallace@yahoo.com

Christ Episcopal Church Phone Numbers and Email Addresses:

Steve Swift	366-3471 (Office) 376-1223 (Cell)	saswift@wvdsi.net
Christ Episcopal Church	366-3471	christchfmt@wvdsi.net

We are asking that all parishioners participate in submitting articles to the Manna. Submissions are requested by the **22nd of the month** to meet the deadline of the next month's publication.

Articles can be sent to Mary Hoylman via email at [mhoylman@indres.com](mailto:mhoylman@indres.com); fax at 367-9737; phone at 363-4100 (daytime) or 367-0240 (evenings) --- or articles can be dropped off to Bessie McCardle at the Church Office.

**Treasurer's Report**

**Steve Hoylman**

Below is the Financial Report for May 2008. Our pledge collections for the month of May have fallen behind and our expenses picked up this past month. The year-to-date collections have not been reflecting this "shortage" due to the pre-payment pledges that we had received the beginning of the year.

January 1 thru December 31, 2008:	Budget	Actual	Over / (Under)
Loose Plate Collections	5,500	7,159	1,659
Pledge Collections	39,000	39,425	425
Expenses	93,552	79,278	(14,274)
<b>June 2008 Only:</b>			
Loose Plate Collections	917	1,746	829
Pledge Collections	6,500	6,940	440
Expenses	15,592	9,696	(5,896)



## Important Dates to Remember

- Sunday, August 3rd      Coffee Hour after Church Service
- Wednesday, August 6th    6:00 p.m. Outreach Committee Meeting
- Monday, August 11th      6:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting
- Saturday, August 16th    10:30 a.m. Soup Opera (Need Volunteers and Co-Captains)
- Sunday, August 17th      11:30 a.m. Christian Education Planning Committee (Fellowship Hall)
- Sunday, September 14th    2:00 p.m. Deanery Picnic (see separate article)
- Sunday, September 21st    10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist - Bishop Visit / Confirmation

## Liturgical Assistants Calendar

Date	Service	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Acolytes	Sacristan	Ushers *	Counters
8/3/08	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	M. Lopez K. Hamilton	J. Burford D. Burnell	M. Boyles C. Boyles	Team 2 All Season	Steed /Marsh Family	K. Brown C. Wood
8/10/08	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	C. Carlot N. Hamilton	N. Hamilton M. Lopez	T. Hamilton N. Lopez M. Jacquez	Team 3 All Season	L. Leon J. Burford	K. Hamilton A. Heim
8/17/08	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	L. Lawson K. Hamilton	C. Wood T. Steed	J. Wood M. Marsh B. Metheny	Team 4 All Season	K. Brown D. Hawkins	T. Balenger J. Wallace
8/24/08	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	J. Miller C. Carlot	K. Hamilton J. Hamilton	A. Wadsworth M. Jacquez	Team 1 All Season	Steed /Marsh Family	N. Hamilton S. Tennant
8/31/08	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	M. Lopez B. Barkley	J. Burford D. Burnell	C. Boyles M. Marsh	Team 2 All Season	G. Boyles B. Metheny	M. Lawson K. Brown
9/7/08	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	N. Hamilton L. Lawson	B. Hamilton D. Hamilton	N. Lopez B. Metheny A. Wadsworth	Team 3 All Season	L. Leon J. Burford	C. Wood K. Hamilton

If you cannot be at church on one of your appointed days, please make arrangements on your own for a replacement ahead of time. Anyone still willing to volunteer for any of the above positions, please contact Bessie at the church office or call Mary Hoylman (contact information in another section of Manna).

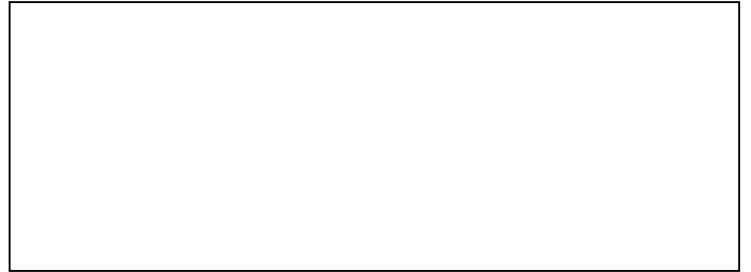
**Anyone that will not be available to serve on a particular Sunday is asked to contact Mary Hoylman or Bessie McCardle.**

Remember - we are asking that "families" volunteer to be ushers - can be parents with children, husband and wife only, parent and one child, etc. The Steed/Marsh family will be serving in this capacity first on August 3rd. If you can participate in September - please contact us.



**Christ Episcopal Church  
824 Fairmont Avenue  
Fairmont, WV 26554**

Phone: 304-366-3471  
Fr. Steve Cell: 304-376-1223  
E-mail: christchfmt@wvdsi.net  
Webiste: fairmontepiscopal.com



When you get to your wit's end,  
you'll find God lives there

