



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

July 2009

Church Phone: 304.366.3471
E-mail: christchfmt@wvdsi.net
Website: www.fairmontepiscopal.com

The Rev. Siobhan Patterson, Rector
Rector's Cell Phone: 304.617.9589
Rector's E-mail: christchfmt.rector@gmail.com

Worship Services: Holy Eucharist is celebrated at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday. A nursery is provided.

*Our mission is to...
know God, love God, and serve others.*

Rector's Message

Siobhán Patterson

Dear Parish Family and Friends,

This month, I direct your attention to our Bishop's recent letter to us, which was published in the March-June 2009 Koinonia. I think it gives us a helpful perspective as we approach the fall and the good work that is ahead of us.

In Christ,
Siobhán+

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Money. One cannot help but open the paper, read a current magazine, or turn on the television without hearing about money.

Over the past year we have heard of vast fortunes being lost because of greed, 'sub-prime mortgages,' short term returns, and inexcusably high salaries for those who helped to bring this crisis upon us.

The television evangelists have declared that if one is wealthy, God is pleased with them and blesses them. If one is not rich, it's obviously because of God's disfavor with them. We have always known this kind of theology to be wrong, but it does seem to crawl into our own existence. Wealth somehow seems to equate with personal value. (We see this in a variety of ways – wealth, health, job status. Remember when the people asked Jesus about the blind man: "Who sinned, this man or his parents") It equates with blessings for the good and punishment for the evil. It needs to go without saying that this kind of theology has no place in our lives. It is wrong, and it is demeaning to those who live in less than the picture perfect image of wealth.

But for many – in various ways, through our home, car, clothing, or schooling 'pedigree,' – money is the way by which we declare our own value. We do feel blessed when we have more money in our pockets. We feel like we may have failed if we don't. Money becomes a sacrament of our worth.

In truth, I believe that money is a Sacrament of our lives. It is an outward and visible sign of what we value...not how we are valued, but rather what we value. Jesus says, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." He does not say, "Where your heart is, there will your treasure be, also." Interesting twist of words, isn't it? Put your money there, and your heart will follow. Hold back your treasure, and your heart will be held back also. Our hearts follow.

As much as our money becomes important to us, and it reveals much about our priorities, money is not a solution.



Many years ago the Alban Institute did a study and found that when congregations applied for grants and were turned down, the projects for which they were requesting the grants were up and running within a year – WITHOUT THE FUNDING. Money certainly would have made the projects easier and perhaps have enhanced what they wanted to do, but money did not make or break the programs, per se.

The same is true today for our congregations around the Church. Ultimately money is not the answer.

During this economic crisis (it's not the first, and certainly won't be the last) it is time for the Church to step up and be the Church more boldly and proudly. It is time to be creative and resourceful. It is time for the Church to proclaim the problems of this world, and to proclaim the promises made by God through Christ.

May we have the courage to take advantage of this economic crisis and creatively be the Church – that Body of faithful people who follow Jesus Christ, and proclaim Him as Lord and Saviour.

In Christ,
Bishop Mike

Stewardship Thought: Mike Lawson

The PROMISE to us: Peace, Tranquility, Contentment, Joy - ETERNAL LIFE (Gee, that sure is a lot of what we spend our days and years striving to get).

What is asked of us: A small portion of our time and treasure (That sure doesn't seem like much to give)

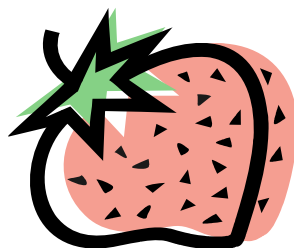
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ECM Report

Kyle Hamilton

Thanks to Louise and Mike Lawson for leading the volunteer team at the *Soup Opera* on Saturday, June 16th. A total of 66 meals were served. Assisting in the kitchen and dining room were: The Lawsons, Amy and Matt Berardi, Sue Garcia, Bruce Hamilton, Susan Hlebinsky, and two students from Fairmont State University. The next scheduled volunteer day is Saturday, July 18th at 10:30am. The *Soup Opera* is located at the corner of Quincy and Jackson streets downtown, just below the new Fairmont Municipal Building.

Our Annual Strawberry Festival was a great success and was great fun! Many thanks to all who helped, contributed, and attended!



Diocesan Cedar Point Trip

August 6th-8th – The **Diocesan Cedar Point trip & youth event** will be held. The diocese has a group package for discounted tickets on Friday, August 7th. Tickets ordered through the diocese are \$32 and are available to anyone that would like entry to the park on the 7th. Coinciding with that date, the diocese will be hosting a **youth event** for all middle and high school students August 6th-8th at Christ Church, Clarksburg. The registration fee for the event is \$60, and includes entry into the park, bus transportation by to and from Cedar Point, and breakfast both mornings. Participants will be responsible for their own meals at the park. Youth can be dropped off at Christ Church at 7pm on the 6th, and should be picked up by 10am on the 8th. If you are interested in purchasing tickets to the park, please e-mail Jason Beschinski at jbeschinski@wvdicoese.org. Tickets must be ordered by July 25th. To register for the youth event, please complete the registration form (available in the parish office) and mail it to the diocesan office with your \$60 registration fee.

Christian Education

Chris Metheny

Christian Education July 2009

Summer Christian Education – Christian education for youth (of all ages) will continue throughout the summer with crafts and short lessons at 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. While the youth are meeting, informal gatherings with light refreshments will be offered for adults in the Parish Hall.

Christian Education Kick Start Meeting:

Hey All! Summer will be flying by before we know it, and we need to begin planning for our Fall Kick-Off Carnival and Back to Sunday School Programs.

If at all possible, I would like to schedule a brain-storming session on July 26th, Sunday after church, and I will even feed you!

I realize I won't be able to catch everyone, but need input as much as possible, including your interest in teaching this fall.

Let me know what you can do for Christian Education! I NEED YOU! :o)

Chris Metheny methenyc@wvuh.com cell: 304-365-1086

Monthly Parish Dinners - Don't forget that the monthly parish dinners are scheduled for the fourth Saturday of each month in the Parish Hall. Please bring a dish to share and any fun games or activities you would like to do. Contact Chris Metheny (304.365.1086) or methenyc@wvuh.com if you can help.



Peterkin Summer Camp Schedule

Remaining Camps

Intermediate Camp: July 12 – July 18

Family Camp: July 19 – July 25

Hallelujah Hike (note: extended one extra day): July 25 – August 1

Creative Arts Camp: July 26 – August 1

Camp registrations are now available online through the Peterkin website (peterkin.org), at the bottom of the "Summer Camps" page, or by using this web address: <http://www.peterkin.org/pages/camps.html>). Full details are available in the church office and in the entryway of the church.

Church League Softball

For more information, contact Luke Huggins huggins@wwwc.edu

Church league softball games are played at the Trinity Assembly of God softball field off Old Rt. 73. The remaining schedule is as follows:

Sunday, July 19, 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, July 26, 2:15 p.m.

Sunday, August 2, 4:45 p.m.



Bring your lawn chair and come out and support the Christ Church team!

Yoga Community Outreach

Place: **Christ Episcopal Church**

824 Fairmont Ave., Fairmont

Price: Donation Based

Donation Recommendation \$3.00-\$7.00



With Instructors Sally Tennant and Lauren Hamilton

July Classes: July 11, 18, and 25 at 9:00 a.m.

August Classes: August 1, 8, 16, 23, and 30 at 9:00 a.m.

Contact Sally for more information

Sally Tennant: (304) 694-0107 or sjotennant@aol.com



Liturgical Assistants Calendar

Date	Service	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Acolytes	Sacristans	Ushers *	Counters
7/5/09 5th Sunday after Pentecost	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	B. Barkley M. Lopez	J. Hamilton K. Hamilton	N. Lopez C. Boyles F. Tennant	Team 2 All Season	B. Metheny G. Boyles	L. Withers-Boyles S. Tennant
7/12/09 6th Sunday after Pentecost	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	L. Lawson J. Miller	J. Burford A. Patterson	M. Marsh B. Metheny L. Marsh	Team 3 All Season	J. Burford L. Leon	K. Hamilton G. Metheny
7/19/09 7th Sunday after Pentecost	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	K. Hamilton N. Hamilton	N. Hamilton D. Burnell	N. Lopez Alec W.	Team 4 All Season	K. Brown Volunteer	K. Brown N. Hamilton
7/26/09 8th Sunday after Pentecost	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	B. Hamilton D. Hamilton	C. Wood D. Hamilton	B. Metheny J. Wood F. Tennant	Team 1 All Season	Steed-Marsh Family	S. Tennant C. Wood
8/5/09 9th Sunday after Pentecost	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	C. Carlot M. Lawson	J. Hamilton K. Hamilton	Alec W. M. Marsh Abby W.	Team 2 All Season	B. Metheny G. Boyles	T. Balenger J. Wallace

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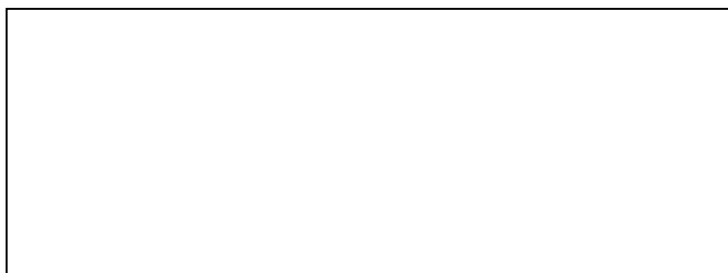
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*"Sing, suns and stars of space,
Sing, ye that see his face,
Sing, Jesus Christ be praised!
God's whole creation o'er,
Both now and evermore
Shall Jesus Christ be praised!"*

...Robert Seymour Bridges

