

PARISH UPDATE

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NEWS & NOTES

August Birthdays

- 9.....Sally Knapp
- 16.....Madeline Martin
- 19.....Wesley Martin
- 29.....Julie Ayres
- 31.....Dorothy Solyan

August Anniversaries

- 8.....James and Dodie Edge
- 13.....William and Juliann Trischler
- 13.....Jady and Liza Koch
- 22.....Henry and Eileen Meyer

Our Deepest Sympathy

To Walter Perry and family on the recent death of his mother Ruth Mack.

Congratulations

To Tom and Melissa Farabaugh on the birth of their son Nathan on Tuesday, July 25, weighing 9 lbs. 5 ozs. Nathan is the brother to Amanda and Taylor.

Holy Baptism

On July 30 we welcomed Noah Ryan, the son of Kevin & Stacey Jay into the fellowship of the Church.



Church Picnic & Outdoor Service

The church picnic and outdoor service is held on the first Sunday after Labor Day. This year the date is September 10. This event marks the return to our normal 10:30 AM service time and the kick off of the fall season. It is also a time when we remember and recognize our military and public service personnel who risk their lives on our behalf. Friends and neighbors are welcome to this meaningful service.

Family Funfest and Flea Market

The second annual Family Funfest and Flea Market will be held on Saturday, August 12 from noon till 4 PM at the church. Returning favorites like the Dunk Tank, Moon Walk, DJ, Chipping Contest, food, and Face Painting, along with many flea market items will make for a good time in the neighborhood. Everyone is invited to come hang out.

Parish Update

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Edited by: Joseph Martin & Dave Young

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Message From the Rector:

Harley Christianity Doesn't Work

Dear friends,

I've learned a lot of things riding a Harley. One thing is I have hundreds of new friends. It's amazing; I just ride down the road and guys I've never met before wave at me from their Harleys like they know me. Some of the other bikers wave too, but almost ALL of the Harley riders wave. Funny, when I drive down the road with Heidi and the kids in our white mini-van none of those guys wave. I stick my head out of the window and give the ol' thumbs up and they just give me funny looks. But get on that Harley and we're good buds. What a great world, all that matters is that we're Harley riders. We don't know anything about each other except that and that's enough to keep us waving. It's kind of cool, actually, and makes you feel good, but it's no way to run a church.

In a clergy gathering in our diocese before General Convention some clergy expressed discontent over Bishop Duncan's "divisive" policies. One clergyman lamented, "Why are we dividing over these theological differences, after all we are all Episcopalians." Recently, the Orlando Sentinel quoted a member of the diocese of Central Florida as saying, "We (the Episcopal Voices of Central Florida) take no position on scripture or theology or morals ... We are Episcopalians." That's Harley Christianity. It doesn't matter what you believe or think, as long as we wear the same label we're unified.

The other day I was weed whacking in the yard in my worn out jeans and beat up steel toed boots. It was late on a Saturday afternoon when I finished and Heidi asked me to run to the store and pick up some bread and milk for breakfast. "Sure," I thought, "I'll just hop on the Harley and whip up to the grocery store." I went to the store, got the milk and bread, and gently packed the goods in my

leather side bags. On the way home in my jeans, boots, sunglasses, and my white t-shirt flapping in the breeze with the rumble of the pipes underneath I approached an oncoming group of "real" Harley riders. As we passed each other, looking somewhat similar, we gave each other the low arm wave of solidarity that said we were one. It was a cool feeling but I couldn't help but crack up wondering what they would think if they knew I was a suburban, "green-horn" rider with cold milk and bread from the grocery store in my bags. Who knows, they might have been computer programmers feeling sorry for the poor guy in the grass-stained jeans.

The point is for 40 years Episcopalians (and most main line church goers) have given each other the wave of solidarity because of their denominational label without knowing or discussing what each other believed. Like a Harley, we liked the name, the look, and the sound but didn't go a whole lot deeper. Sometimes it's easier that way but as we're discovering, it doesn't serve the people or the church very well. The Body of Christ is held together by deeply held personal beliefs that have been well established by God and handed down through the prophets, apostles, scriptures, and generations of Christians who have gone before. To say we are Episcopalians but take no position on scripture, theology or morals is to abandon all of Christian history and personal relationships and ride around with our head in a helmet with nothing to say and no good news to proclaim. What a tragedy. The truth is as Anglicans (Episcopalians) we do have something to share, the wonderful, life-giving gospel of Jesus Christ. We just need to take the time to hear and learn what that

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Calendar of Events

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

- Sunday 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Music Practice
10:00 a.m. Family Service & Children's Summer Video Series
- Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Intercessory Prayer Time
- Saturdays 7:30 a.m. Men's Group the 1st and 3rd

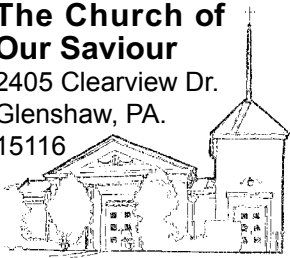
SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST

- Sunday, Aug 12 Fun Fest & Flea Market
- Monday, Aug 14..... Vestry meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, Aug. 16 Picnic Service planning meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Please pray for the all the parishioners and friends of Church of Our Saviour

The Church of Our Saviour

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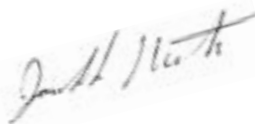
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Message From the Rector (continued)

gospel says. Do you know what you believe and why you believe it? Can you articulate the basics of the Christian faith? If not, or even if you think you can, I want to invite you to refresh or deepen your understanding of the "faith once delivered by the saints" by attending the Alpha Course being offered this fall. It begins in September and runs one night a week for ten weeks. We will learn, eat, and discuss the basics of the faith together and understand what it is that holds the body of Christ (and Anglicans) together. I hope you will attend and that we can offer each other the "real" wave of solidarity, our common belief in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Blessings,
Joseph



Church Hosting concert by Russian Vocalists "The Hermitage Ensemble"

Mark your calendars and tell your friends about a wonderful evening with the Russian vocal group "The Hermitage Ensemble." "Hermitage" is a four man, one woman vocal ensemble from St. Petersburg, Russia. All its members are professional singers with several years' experience and higher musical education from the conservatoire in St Petersburg.

"Hermitage" was organized in 1994. The list of singers include: high tenor, second tenor, baritone, bass profundo. The repertoire consists of traditional hymns of the Russian Orthodox Church as well as Russian folk songs. The Men's vocal Ensemble repertoire includes a wide range of works which shows rich interests of the choirs: Russian and foreign sacred music, arrangements of folk music, romances, operas and choir concerts, spirituals and barbershop music.

The Choir repertoire represents the richest heritage of the Orthodox music of 18th-20th centuries. The concert will last about one hour with a wine and cheese and refreshment reception to follow. Concert date: October 28 at 6:30 PM at the Church of Our Saviour. A free will offering will be collected for the group.



The State of the Church (Briefly)

First of all, I want to thank Dave Young and Kathy Walzer for putting together our previous newsletter on such a short notice. The decision to scrap the usual articles in favor of the monumental statements by the Archbishop and Bishop Duncan was literally worked out by phone on I-79 as the Martins headed south for vacation. Now that we're back let me give a brief analysis of where we are as Episcopalians and Anglicans.

The monumental statement by the Archbishop of Canterbury basically substantiated the understanding that we in the Anglican Communion are not a loose federation of independent entities believing and behaving as we wish, but are a worldwide communion that operates and makes decisions as a body. The Episcopal Church by ordaining a practicing homosexual and allowing same sex blessings has acted unilaterally against the consent of the communion and at its last General Convention failed to repent and refrain from such innovations to the faith. In essence, he said that the Episcopal Church had decided to walk apart from the communion.

The Diocese of Pittsburgh along with seven other diocese have agreed with the Archbishop and in an attempt to remain members of the Anglican Communion have asked for "alternative primatial oversight" which means they want to sit under an Anglican Primate other than the newly elected Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori. Aside from addressing the Lord as "Mother Jesus," supporting same-sex unions, and denying that Jesus is the only way to salvation, she seems committed to the unilateral mindset of the Episcopal Church that has no regard for historic, biblical Anglicanism. Part two of the decision by the diocese is to remove itself from the geographical province III of the Episcopal Church and become part, along with the seven other dioceses, of a non-geographical province that is in good standing with the Anglican Communion.

Much will be worked out in the months to come but in the meantime we at the Church of Our Saviour will continue the good work that God has set before us as we proclaim the good news of the gospel of Christ and remain members of the Anglican Communion.

ENK Another Winner

Thanks to our good friends at Christ Church Grove Farm and a hard working crew from Our Saviour, twenty neighborhood children played games, heard bible stories, and ate lunch together during the second annual ENK (Every Neighborhood Kid) summer VBS at Our Saviour.



The Grove Farm duo of Cathleen (a high school graduate heading to Geneva College) and Ben (a high school senior) showed uncanny Christian maturity as they read stories, taught bible lessons, and played games with the kids. The "lunch-lady" duo of Robin Acquafondata and Heidi Martin served yummy meals each day to kids, parents, and volunteers. Others who helped out during the week included Doris Neiger, Joseph Martin, Jeff Acquafondata, Joanne Winkler, Pat Schmit, Melissa Ernst, Pat Purdy, and Barb Grundler. Thanks also to those who donated supplies for the week.