



There's a Place for you at the Table

A publication by, for and about the people of St. Aidan's Episcopal Church

From the Desk of Mother Juli

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The warm sun, the longer days, green grass, the sound of birds singing all make me think of planting and growing. When our youngest son, David was in grade school, the students in his first grade class each planted flower seeds in a paper cup as a science project. Dave's seed happened to be a zinnia which he brought home and proudly presented to me for mothers' day. He continued to water and care for his plant long after mother's day. When the weather was warm enough, he moved the plant to a window well on the south side of the house.

Once the plant was out of sight, I had sort of forgotten about it. Sometime later, he decided to dig a hole in the yard and plant it. One day he called me out to the yard to see a surprise. His bright orange zinnia was blooming. Not only that, it had grown beyond the size of a normal plant. It now stood almost four feet tall. We have a picture among our stacks of family photos with David standing beside his plant that was now taller than he was. His plant had undergone quite a transformation from a spindly plant in a paper cup to a giant blooming plant with a stock sturdy enough to stand tall.

Eight years ago on January 6, I began at St. Aidan's as your part time Priest. Five years ago St. Aidan's had a celebration of New Ministry as I was installed as your Rector. During the celebration gifts were presented as symbols of our mutual ministry. There was a Bible to remind us of the need to study the Holy Scriptures, a Book of Common Prayer, to remind us of our call to prayer and worship; a copy of church Cannons, to remind us that we are organized as a larger body of Christians governed by rules of order; water for Baptism, to remind us to initiate new Christians; oil for chrism and unction; a reminder that we are marked with the sign of the cross with chrism at our baptism and anointed the with oil of unction for healing; keys to the front door and office, a reminder to keep the doors open and welcoming to all people; and a small apple tree in a flower pot, to remind us of our call to bear fruit.

We are now in our eighth year together. During the first three years we were a little bit like Dave's plant in the paper cup. We were not quite sure if we could grow and sustain. The stories we heard about ourselves and the ones we told ourselves were not very hopeful. But, I do not hear us telling those stories today. We can truly say that if St. Aidan's were not here we would be missed because we do make a difference in the community. We can truly say that we are working together to call Christians and make disciples. We can truly say that we work together

to be certain that "There is a place for everyone at the table." We can claim that Christ is working through us to bear fruit.

Last Saturday, St. Aidan's participated in a Summit for Small Churches where we had the opportunity to listen to stories from other churches in our diocese and to share our stories. There was a tremendous amount of energy among 14 churches represented as we gathered in small groups around the tables. Being together reminded us that we are larger than one community; that we are all in ministry together; that we are all part of the body of Christ; that we are called to work together in mutual ministry; that we are all called to bear fruit.

The small apple tree that St. Aidan's presented to me at my installation as Rector was planted out in the church yard. It has had stakes beside it for support and folks have watered it during dry times. Today, the apple tree in St. Aidan's yard is thriving. It has healthy green leaves and white flowers this year. A few days ago someone called to me to walk across the yard to look at the change in the apple tree and to discover the two small apples she is holding.

Like David's zinnia and St. Aidan's apple tree, our Christian lives must be nurtured and cared for so that we can grow and bloom and bear fruit. We are fed and cared for in loving relationships with God and one another, through worship, through prayer and study, through the Holy Scripture, and in receiving the sacrament. We are each called to use the gifts we have been given for ministry. As the letter to the Ephesians reminds us, *Each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift,...The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, (Eph. 4:7,11-13)*
In Peace, Mtr Juli+



Fellow Servants of Christ,

“There’s a spirit in the air, telling Christians everywhere;
 ‘Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working, in our world.’
 Lose your shyness, find you tongue, tell the world what God has done:
 God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow’s life today.
 When believers break the bread, when a hungry child is fed,
 Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working, in our world.
 Still the Spirit gives us light, seeing wrong and setting right:
 God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow’s life today.
 When a stranger’s not alone, where homeless find a home,
 Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world.
 May the Spirit fill our praise, guide our thoughts and change our ways.
 God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow’s life today.
 There’s a Spirit in the air, calling people everywhere:
 Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working, in our world.”

Words by Brian Wren (Worship & Rejoice, 133)

The words of Brian Wren in this Hymn, are what I see and here everyday at St. Aidan’s. These words are seen in our ministries when we tend to one another, take communion to shut ins, pack and deliver the BackSnacks, volunteer or contribute groceries or money to the St. Paul’s food pantry, prepare and share a meal at Center for Grace, and occasionally provide overnight accommodations to the homeless, or assist with gas money, or grocery cards. These words are seen in our worship, when we pray, and sing. These words are seen in our liturgy, and each and every time we participate in each of the sacraments. They are seen in our fellowship when we gather for Christian Education, meetings, meals, and parties. They are seen in our relationships when we work together side by side; when we share our joys, our sorrows, our hopes, and visions. They are seen inside our walls of the church, they are seen in the secular world around us. But only...if we allow the Holy Spirit to continuously be present in our lives. Do you see it? Do you hear it? Do you feel it? Have you found it? Let the Holy Spirit be revealed to you in the scripture you read and hear. Let the Holy Spirit be revealed to you in the life you live today by doing as Christ would do, and share his love and compassion in harmony with all in the world and all of creation.

In Christ’s service, *Fran*

Stephen Eugene Varzaly, age 66

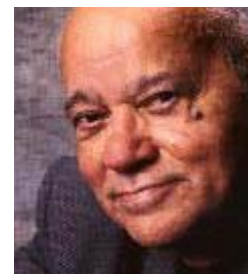


Steve entered life eternal early Tuesday, April 17, 2012. “Give rest, O Christ, to your servant Steve with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.” There was “A Celebration of Steve's Life” at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church on April 20, 2012.

He is survived by his wife, Martha and children Laura Cambron, Carrie Grosdidier, Brent Varzaly, and eight grandchildren. Steve served a Criminal Investigator and a Corporate Security Manager. He was active with children and teens during much of his life as a Boy Scout leader. In middle life he became a psychologist, primarily with adolescents, and then taught middle school Kansas City, KS.

Steve was member of St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, Olathe KS. A lifelong Episcopalian, he was very active in his church as a teacher, a Lay Eucharistic Minister, a Chaplain and a licensed mentor for Education for Ministry. He will be remembered by the youth for his magic tricks and his stories around the campfire.

George J. Dunmore
2012 Freedom Fund Community Activist Award



Article from NAACP 103 Years: Moving in New Directions:

George J. Dunmore has been active and involved in many community efforts: Olathe Human relations Commission, Congressman Moore Member Cabinet, Public Relations Officer-Heart of America Chapter, Tuskegee Airmen, Inc, greeter and member of St. Aidan's Episcopal church of Olathe; contributing writer for Kansas City Call, worker for the BackSnack Program and life member of the JCNAACP Branch. George is a faithful and dedicated member of Johnson county NAACP. His monthly membership meeting attendance and active participation is unequal. We're pleased to have Mr. Dunmore share his great historical facts and views on current issues in our society. George J. Dunmore retired from the Ohio Army National Guard with 21 years of service as a Captain. Mr. Dunmore serves as Vice President and Public relations Officer for the Heart of America Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen of America, Inc. and has been a speaker at more than 22 schools during the month of February. Captain Dunmore is the fourth member of his family to be associated with the Tuskegee Airmen. Tonight we honor Mr. Dunmore for his continual support of the cause of justice and equality. We present to you a stouthearted man who will fight for civil rights, justice and humanity. Mr. George Dunmore, the Johnson country NAACP branch is elated to honor you as on of the strongest and knowledgeable community activists in our area by presenting to you this distinguished "2012 Freedom Fund Community Activist Award."

News from St. Bridget's Chapter of the Daughters of the King



New Members Installed!

St. Bridget's Chapter of the Daughters of the King welcomes three new members who were installed on Sunday April 15, 2012. They are Barb Belt; Kathleen McGowan; and Doreen Rice.



St. Bridget's will host events throughout the year and invite women interested in learning more about the Order of the Daughters of the King to attend. The only requirement for membership in the Order is that a woman be a communicant in good standing.

We invite you to join us on May 19th from 9-11 am for our Silent Saturday Mornings in the Sanctuary (SSMS). This is held the third Saturday of each month. This designated quiet time offers the congregation the opportunity to pray, meditate, read, study or practice centering prayer surrounded by silence. We invite you to find time to join us as we reaffirm the sense of sacred space in our sanctuary. During this time, each member of the congregation as well as recent visitors to the church are prayed for by name. This sacred time is open to everyone. Come for a few minutes, 20 minutes, a half-hour, an hour or two.

Also, Centering Prayer will be led from 10 - 10:30 am in the Parish Hall to everyone interested. Centering Prayer is a method to help prepare oneself for Contemplative Prayer, opening one's heart and mind, quieting the mind, letting go of thoughts, words and emotions and resting in God.

If you have any questions regarding the Order of the Daughters of the King at St. Aidan's, please contact Carolyn Sturgeon, Shirley Schmutzler, Jan Warner or Martha Berton.

Playground Project

Our playground recently had a facelift!

Joe Bush and members of his Scout Troup painted the play-set, added shrubs, mulch and three new benches as part of Joe's Eagle Scout project. Below we see them hard at work. Thank you to all who helped.



Girl Scouts, Girl Scouts, & More Girl Scouts!

That's what you get when they celebrate their 100th Birthday with our neighbors at Center of Grace. 3 Girl Scout Troops joined together in filling in for St. Aidan's for our Monthly dinner at Center for Grace, and with a record high of 54 volunteers that evening, they served a fantastic taco salad plate with the most colorful and creative cupcakes we've ever seen! The troop leading the pack was Laurie Bush's troop, and their fearless troop leader Jane Bush. Thanks to their help, we were able to serve 430 meals that evening.





Youth Notes

REMINDER: St. Aidan's Youth Saturday at St. Paul's Food Pantry May 21st!

As the school year winds down, it is amazing that our "small church" has so many youth. Again this year we had 34 youth attend our Sunday programs. And that excludes the Christmas and Easter Services. Our youth program does not stop during the Summer but "changes it up" as we enjoy the outdoors that God gives us and play games. Please try to attend our Youth Sunday celebration on May 20th Service. This is where adults acolyte and youth perform the "adult" roles.

QUESTION: Where can you go to hear "Visions and Prophecy", Swim, Horseback Riding, Find Gold, Dance, Bonfires, Watch the sun rise, hear cattle lowing?

ANSWER: MEGA CAMP. Mega Camp II starts June 3-9 and is where about 300 Youth from grades 3 thru 12 gather for a week of Spiritual growth and communion with God and each other. This year's theme is Prophets and Visionaries and is inspired from Peter's telling of Joel's prophesy in Acts 2:14-21.

There are still Staff and Youth openings, so please contact the Church for more information.

QUESTION: Where can you sleep in July in a room with the air conditioner not working (sometimes), build a house, help lost or abandoned animals, work with very special kids and babies, repair and maintain God's creation, Feed the hungry, and Serve others as Jesus did?

ANSWER: *While it could be anywhere,* it is **MISSION PALOOZA.** This is a chance for about 100 youth from Missouri and Kansas to gather and Serve the needs. This event is planned for July 16-22. Also, St. Aidan's has fed the group breakfast and have been asked to do so again. It is a great way for us to "feed the lambs" as they mobilize to "feed the sheep".

Don Hutchinson

- Set up the Altar and clean up after services
- Put up hymnal numbers
- Get coffee ready for Sunday mornings
- Fill LEV kits



*Touch the past...
be a part of the future.*

Interested in joining our team?

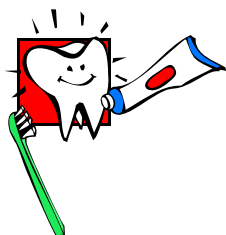
Lend us your time and talent – approximately 45 -60 min every 5-8 weeks.

We are looking for men, women, couples, high school students. You will be teamed up with an experienced member. Training will be announced soon.



From the Altar Corner...

Christus Rex – any three dimensional cross showing Christ wearing Eucharistic vestments and a crown. It signifies victory of the resurrected Christ as symbolized by his return to glory as the King of Kings, and our participation in his victory as sustained through the Holy Eucharist. **Christus** is Greek for “the anointed one,” and **Rex** is Latin for “king.”



[St. Aidan’s Joins K2K Mission Trip To Kenya](#)

St. Aidan’s will have 2 of our very own joining the K2K Medical Mission team that will be going to Maai Mahui, Kenya on June 8, 2012; Dr. Jan Warner, and Fr. Jerry Adinolfi. This medical team will be providing both medical and dental assistance to the people of Maai Mahui. Dr. Warner will be assisting with the dental team, and Fr. Adinolfi will be serving as one of the Chaplains.

In addition, St. Aidan’s has the opportunity to provide 500 Dental Hygiene Kits for the people of Maai Mahui and send them along with the medical team. Thanks to a gracious offer from a local Colgate representative, our cost to provide 500 of these kits is only \$397.44. This comes to \$ 0.79 per person for both a toothbrush and tube of toothpaste! We couldn’t pass up this wonderful opportunity in being able to provide more to our brothers and sisters in Maai Mahui, so in lieu of collecting toothbrushes, we will be doing a monetary collection instead.

Please prayerfully consider supporting this ministry by placing a donation in the blue envelopes provided in the Narthex. We will be collecting the envelopes in the collection plates during our Saturday and Sunday Services through the month of May.

Farewell sendoff for Roberta Paulette!

St. Aidan’s Lay Eucharistic Visitors said Good bye to parishioner Roberta Paulette. Roberta, who has resided at the Gables for the past year, is moving to New Mexico to live with her son and his family. Our LEV’s have faithfully taken communion to her and several other residents at the Gables each Sunday for the past several years. Her bright spirit will certainly be missed and her belief on **Let Go, Let God** will be an eternal inspiration to us all.

“May the Lord watch between me and thee while we are apart one from the other!”

Good Bye Roberta... We love you!



Birthdays

Carrie Wilson	May 1
Becky Spriggs	May 5
Trenton Ray	May 5
Jamison Holland	May 7
Dominic Strain	May 8
David-Mark Campbell	May 15
Neal Schmutzler	May 15
Samantha Hutchinson	May 19
Jim Bush	May 20

Anniversaries

Cynthia McDonald& Ian Hobbs	May 2
Rick & Cindy Crouch	May 12
David-Mark Campbell & Martha Lamoy	May 14
R. J. & Laura Agee	May 21

Worship Times

Sunday
9 am
Adult Forum
Sunday School

10 am
Eucharist
Nursery

Saturday
5 pm
Eucharist

Wednesday
Evening Prayer
6 pm

**ECS/JCFM Center For
Grace Community Dinner**

**Volunteers needed for
dinners on May 24th and
June 28th.**

Vestry Members - 2012

Sr. Warden: Don Seifert
Jr. Warden: Sarah Stewart
Clerk: Carolyn Sturgeon
Treasurer: Jim Bush

Stacie Rasmussen
Sarah Smith
Dana Switzer
Mary Sloan
Chris Spriggs
Sherry Suddarth
Tim Tatlock



***Rogation** comes from Latin "rogare" which means to ask. and "Rogations days" are Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday before the Ascension during which we seek God's Mercy. Rogation originated in the 4th century as prayers seeking God's blessing on seed and crops.*

Much of modern society has lost its direct connection with the soil, but this psychological distance does not lessen the actual dependence of all people on the gifts of nature. Furthermore, responsible stewardship of all of these gifts is increasingly being recognized as the concern of all people. Days of thanksgiving, harvest festivals, and the like are observed in many churches at the end of the growing season. The Rogation Days at the time of planting have become little more than a liturgical footnote in the American Prayer Book, but in these times of growing ecological concern the Church would do well to revive them.

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