

Nativity's Tidings

July 2006
Volume 22, Issue 7

An Episcopal family serving Jesus Christ, caring for one another.

The Right Reverend
John B. Lipscomb
Bishop

The Reverend
Charles H. Mann
Rector

The Reverend
Gerald L. Bennett
Assisting Priest

Church of the Nativity
5900 N. Lockwood Ridge Road
Sarasota, Florida 34243

Telephone: (941) 355-3262
Fax: (941) 358-8930

From the Rector:

Well, by now many of you have heard, discussed, reflected, prayed, and thought over the events that have occurred at the 2006 General Convention. We have seen the reports in the papers, on the television news and on Larry King. The issues that have faced our denomination over the past many years, and especially the last three years, have taken a serious toll on our direction as a communion.

First, let me say that we are indeed an Anglican communion. That communion consists of some 77+ million people worldwide. The Episcopal Church of the United States (ECUSA) makes up about 2.3 million of that communion. We cannot say that what affects one member of the communion doesn't affect others. Otherwise, we wouldn't be a communion at all. We would be just separate churches.

After the events of General Convention 2003, I was as upset as many of you were regarding the direction the church had taken. But instead of leaving the

For more on the General Convention, see the special convention insert inside.

communion, I chose then to stay and "fight it out" so to speak and continue to be a voice that speaks out on sound Biblical doctrine and the authority that Scripture has in our lives. That is still my position and the position of your leadership. This parish has a solid foundation in the Lordship of Jesus Christ and we will press on in that. I chose

(Continued on page 2)

Web Pages:

Our Church:

ChurchOfTheNativity.com

Our Diocese:

DioceseSWfla.org

Church Secretary

Elly Freyer

Treasurer

Dick Gerhart

Financial Administrator

Karla Porter

Music Director

Karla Porter

Youth Minister

Jamie Mann

Minister of Buildings and Grounds

Dick Wernick

Tidings Editor

Annette Wilson

Webmasters

Jon Wunderlich

Jo Davidsmeyer

Vestry:

Administration

Rich Cooper, Senior Warden

Bruce Simington, Junior Warden

Outreach

Jon Wunderlich

Evangelism

Raymond Kow

Nicki Vance

Pastoral Care

Helen Collins

Irene Wernick

Christian Formation

Janet DuBois

James Martin

Worship

Nicki Coffaro

Jo Davidsmeyer

From the Rector:

(Continued from page 1)

to stay because I believe, and the events of the last 8 years (since the last Lambeth conference in 1998) shows, that the overwhelming majority of the Worldwide Anglican Communion still holds to the same Biblical truths and traditions of the historic church that have been in existence from the beginning.

Because of the events ECUSA had taken in 2003, the Archbishop of Canterbury put together a task force to deal with this division that was being made within the communion. Through a document call the Windsor Report, we were asked to express regret for our actions and propose a moratorium on future actions, i.e., electing bishops in same-sex relationships. It appears that the actions taken at this General Convention (2006) falls short of the requests asked of it by the archbishops of the worldwide communion. Our bishop, in a recent statement, feels the same way. ECUSA's future relationship with the worldwide Anglican Communion now rests in the hands of the archbishops. Already a gathering of the African archbishops feel that what this convention has done falls short of the Windsor requests.

Again, I want to reiterate my position. I, too, feel that this convention did not live completely up to the requests placed upon it. I believe that a portion of ECUSA, through actions taken at General Convention, have taken another direction from the worldwide communion. The question may come down to who will be recognized as the continuing church in the United States that will remain in communion with the rest of the world. According to reports that I have read, those who have been faithful to Biblical authority will be the ones that remain in communion. . .that is where I stand. That has been my position from the beginning.

Inside this issue of Tidings is a special insert on this General Convention. Our bishop has signed his name to a response with bishops within the Anglican Communion Network (ACN) and other bishops supporting the Windsor Report. (Note: ACN is a group of dioceses, parishes and individuals within ECUSA who are



As we celebrate our independence July 4, let us remember to thank God for the many blessings we have been given. Let us also remember the men and women who have served our country throughout our history. May those who are serving our country both abroad and at home be kept in our prayers, return home safely to their loved ones and may God keep them in the palm of His hand.

Music in the Garden

Our first Music in the Garden was a smashing success! Okay, we got rained out of the garden and ended up in the parish hall, but that certainly did not dampen anyone's spirits!

Join us on Saturday, July 22 from 6pm to 8pm for music from extraordinary local musicians, food, refreshments, and fellowship. Bring blankets, lounge chairs and friends to this wonderful event.

AND THE WINNER IS

Our very own Jo Davidsmeyer! Jo took home the Third Place Trophy from Cocoa Beach Florida on Saturday, May 20th in the D47 International Speech Contest involving 5000 Toastmasters in Florida and the Bahamas.

There were ten outstanding contestants at the Cocoa Beach Hilton, where Toastmasters held their annual Spring Conference. Jo delivered her speech, in the Hilton's Main Ballroom, to a standing room only crowd. Jo was representing Courthouse Centre Toastmasters sponsored by Kerkering, Barberio & Co.

Jeff Mertins

THANK YOU!!

I want to thank Nativity for sharing our warm and welcoming hospitality to Bishop George and Bishop Tunde. Thank you to "Momma" Marilyn Davis for opening your home for their visit. Thank you to the sight-seeing guides, the dinner hosts, the hospitality crew, and the choir. Thank you to the church staff that put it together behind the scenes. Thank you to all that participated before and during the four day event. We witnessed an amazing experience and blessing by their visit. I can't wait to see the fruit from this event and the impact it will have on Nativity and the community.

In His Service,
Ross Hall

From the Rector

(continued from page 2)

collegial in voice and biblical doctrine. This is not a separate denomination of splinter group like AMIA. I have been a member of ACN since its inception in 2003.) Bishop Lipscomb has also called a special meeting with the clergy on July 8 that I will be attending and then another meeting in late summer for any who would like to attend. I will keep you posted.

Again, I want to encourage you that the focus and ministry of this parish will continue. I believe we are in good hands with our bishop and the stand that he has taken. As your rector, I will continue to stand with you and on the convictions I have regarding our faith and sharing the good news of Christ with others I encourage all of you do the same. As I said in my post convention sermon, we will get through this storm as we have gotten through others.

God bless you,

Fr. Chuck

WE HAVE BEEN BLESSED. . .

. . .to have had Carolyn Johnson as our TIDINGS Editor for the past years. You will all agree that our newsletter is very special. In fact, other churches in our Diocese have called to express their admiration.

If postal delivery of your copy of TIDINGS had been late, we can assure you it hasn't been Carolyn's fault. She has always been on time! She has a magic touch on the computer and always seems to find the right clip art to go along with the articles.

Let us all remember to tell Carolyn how much her time, efforts and expertise have meant to all of us.

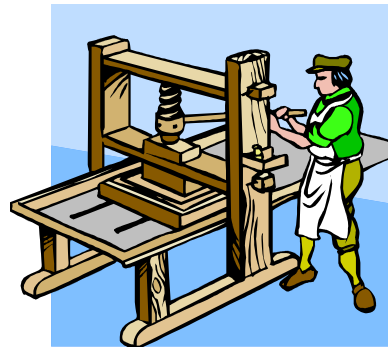
AND WE CONTINUE TO BE BLESSED. . .

. . .by having Annette Wilson volunteer to become our new TIDINGS Editor.

Annette has a career in the legal field and works full time as a paralegal for a local attorney. She has been a member of our choir and soloist since joining Nativity several years ago. And now we are blessed to have her take over the newsletter "helm" from Carolyn.

Please give Annette your own personal vote of thanks!

Elly



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Most everyone has heard of this great organization, but did you know that they are doing a big project here in our own home town? They are building homes in an area known as Jordan's Crossing, off of Tuttle Ave — across from Tuttle Elementary school within the City of Sarasota. This project is rapidly reaching its conclusion, but I am told new projects are on the drawing board.

There are many ways to support this great cause. You can visit and shop at one of their two stores in Sarasota on 17th Street at East Avenue. You can volunteer some time and labor. You can make donations of items to the stores, and I believe you can even make a cash donation.

I have found that the volunteer experience is very rewarding, although the work can be hard. You will meet some of the nicest and most interesting people. The future homeowners are grateful and hard working. It is an inspirational experience and it has been an honor for me to donate my hours worked to credit the accounts of a few of these industrious individuals.

I will have a sign up sheet on the board at our “one stop sign up shop” for one Saturday morning for the upcoming months. It would be great to volunteer as a group. We can go as a group, but we may be split up into separate crews on different projects. If we were to have a group larger than five, they desire advanced notice and may request that we reschedule our Saturday for reasons of logistics.

I have worked in a lot of different places, but I have never worked at a place or on a job where people work together so well. Could it be because all the willing volunteers show unselfish compassion and caring for other human beings? My heart tells me yes and I truly believe the Holy Spirit can be readily found within the Habitat for Humanity organization among the many kind souls involved.

For more information on Habitat for Humanity, please call 941-363-7775 (Sarasota) or 941-723-3319 (Manatee County). Prefer the web? www.sarasotahabitat.com/Jordan.htm or for Manatee County: www.manatee-hfh.org

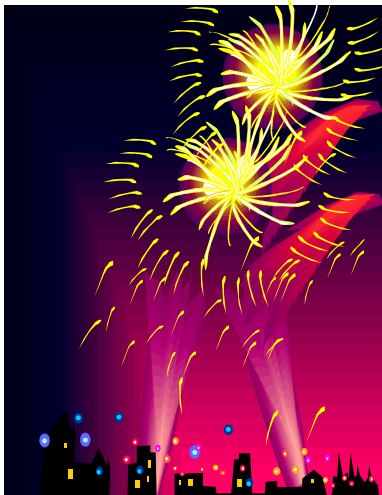
Jon Wunderlich

July Birthdays

- 2 Celia Teigland
- 4 Benjamin Combs
- 5 Joanne Hudson
- 5 AnnaBelle Plush
- 6 Barbara Wildgoose
- 7 Shirley Miska
- 10 Edie Phillips
- 12 Ron Cork
- 12 Anne Mischler
- 13 Wayne Gray
- 13 Betty Kelley
- 15 Anna Slaterpryce
- 15 Tish Parker
- 16 Joe Schifano
- 17 Phil Coffaro
- 18 Bill Stemple
- 19 Eileen Schifano

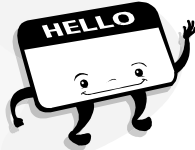
July Anniversaries

- 2 Chris and Leslie Stoops
- 4 Alan and Laura Plush
- 19 Dick and Millie Griffith
- 24 Ed and Edi Phillips
- 26 Les and Edith Shepherd
- 28 Archie and Susan Piper

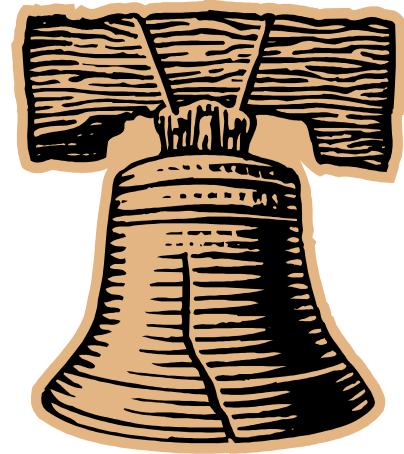


Name Tags

Please try to remember to wear your name badges. They are a big aid to newcomers and to many of us oldcomers who are name-challenged. If you don't have a name badge, you can sign up for a magnetic one for \$7 on the bulletin board outside the church office. Or see Elly to obtain a no cost paper tag in a plastic holder.



HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!



Golf League News

Weekly golf scores for the preceding month are as follows:

May 16: Thank God for the rain! For only the third time in four years, we were weathered out.

May 23: A very fine 3 under par 33 was recorded by the team of Candy (Alligator) Frey, Mel Zang, Ed Jandro and Walt Irving to win by one stroke!

May 30: A terrific 5 under par 31 (one off the record) was scored by the team of Andrea Honroth, Walt Irving, David Miller and Bill Hatfield.

June 6: With a 4 under par 32, the team of Andrea Honroth, Gerry Morrissey, Mark Peelor and Dick Berg were the winners!

June 13: In very windy conditions after Alberto passed through, the tea of Bill Belshaw, Walt Irving, Ed Jondro and Mark Peelor shot an impressive 4 under par 32 to be victorious.

Dick Berg

Nativity—July 2006




Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10am Traditional Eucharist 11am Potluck Brunch 12pm Daughters of King 5pm Youth Group	3 1pm Bridge 7pm Praise Team Practice	4 Office Closed Independence Day	5 10am Healing Eucharist 10:30am Library Helpers, Bandage Brigade 7pm Bible Study	6	7 5:30pm Toastmasters	8
9 9am Traditional Eucharist 11am Praise Eucharist 5pm Youth Group	10 1pm Bridge 7pm Praise Team Practice 7pm Vestry Meeting	11 1pm Golf League	12 10am Healing Eucharist 10:30am Library Helpers, Bandage Brigade 7pm Bible Study	13	14 5:30pm Toastmasters	15
16 9am Traditional Eucharist 11am Praise Eucharist 5pm Youth Group	17 1pm Bridge 7pm Praise Team Practice	18 1pm Golf League	19 10am Healing Eucharist 10:30am Library Helpers, Bandage Brigade 7pm Bible Study	20	21 5:30pm Toastmasters	22 6pm to 8pm Music in the Garden
23 & 30 9am Traditional Eucharist 11am Praise Eucharist 5pm Youth Group	24 & 31 1pm Bridge 7pm Praise Team Practice	25 1pm Golf League	26 10am Healing Eucharist 10:30am Library Helpers, Bandage Brigade 7pm Bible Study	27	28 5:30pm Toastmasters	29



Thank You, Lord, for:

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Manasota FL
Permit #45

Church of the Nativity
5900 North Lockwood Ridge Rd.
Sarasota, FL 34243-2523



Words to live by...

*“Lord, . . . Grant that we and all the people of this
land may have grace to maintain our liberties in
righteousness and peace. . . .”*

From Collect for Independence Day



In God we
Trust

The **Episcopal Church of the Nativity** is located on Lockwood Ridge Road one block south of University Parkway. Our telephone number is (941) 355-3262, and our service times are as follows:

Sunday (July 2):

10:00am Traditional Eucharist and Potluck

Sunday (July 9, 16, 23, and 30):

9:00am Traditional Eucharist

11:00am Praise Eucharist

5:00pm Youth Group

Wednesday:

10:00am Healing Holy Eucharist