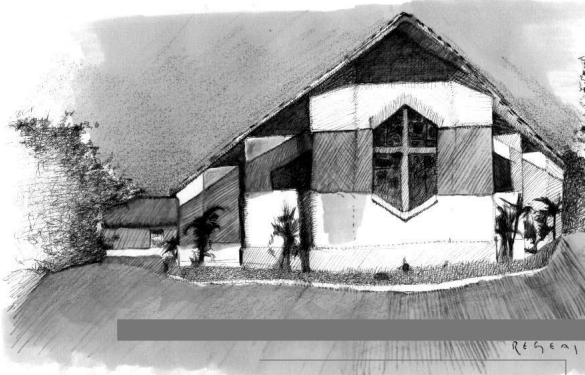


Nativity's Tidings

July 2009
Volume 26, Issue 7



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

The Right Reverend
Dabney Smith, D. Min.
Bishop

The Reverend
Charles H. Mann
Rector

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

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

Rector's Reflections...

General Convention – What is it and why?

Every mainline denomination and indeed most independent churches has some sort of governance called church polity. In essence it sets policy for the church through resolutions or through church law...referred to in our denomination canon law. Canons are set policy whereas other resolutions may be just the mind of the Convention.

Our denomination was born out of the Church of England. After the Revolutionary War the Episcopal Church in the United States formed itself as a denomination that carried on the Anglican tradition and came together at its first convention in 1785. Now, there was a historical process that took place in making that happen...but that is the subject of another article.

The first convention came together to set policy for the new church, elected bishops, and set into motion the birth of the Episcopal Church in the United States. Over time we became a part of what is called the Worldwide Anglican Communion which consists of 38 provinces around the globe...each province having an archbishop or as we call the position, the presiding bishop. Every province is independent but we are a communion...that is we have a common bond and purpose.

Well, back to convention. This gathering occurs every three years...although in the beginning it was more frequent than that. Since our church was formed at the same time as our independence as a nation...it seemed to make sense that the legislative body of our church be set up similarly. There are two bodies of convention...the House of Deputies and the House of Bishops. (Sound familiar now?) The House

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Web Pages:

Our Church:

www.churchofthenativity.com

Our Diocese:

www.episcopalswfla.org

Rector's Reflection

(Continued from page 1)

of Deputies is made up of four lay persons and four clergy from each diocese. These individuals are elected during the respective diocesan conventions. (Those occur annually) They are elected two years prior to General Convention to allow ample time to meet together, be assigned

to committees, etc., prior to

General Convention. The House of Bishops consists of all seated bishops of dioceses, retired bishops, and assisting bishops. All bishops have seat, voice, and vote at General Convention.

Between conventions legislative issues come into committees. There the prospective legislation is checked against current canons, combined with other resolutions if applicable, etc. During the convention the prospective policies coming out of either house are voted on and if passed are sent to the other house. If passed there the policy is enacted. If either house fails to pass a piece of legislation the resolution dies.

Convention is held in various cities around the country...this year it is being held in Anaheim, CA and will take place July 8-17. Our church still faces critical issues that have caused deep divisions in our province and the communion as a whole...mainly centering on two issues, the authority of scripture and human sexuality. (They are related into one issue) These issues will once again come before convention. Already four dioceses of the United States have chosen to leave the US church and align themselves with other provinces of the communion. Many individual churches have done the same. On these issues I personally stand on the side of God's

Word given to us. That will be a line I cannot cross. So, as the deputies and bishops gather, I ask that you pray for our church...and pray for this convention. Pray that God's hand would truly minister to the hearts of those making decisions.

As a note of more historical matters and staying up on what is going on during convention, I will be glad to be available during fellowship time after services this week to discuss the issues that the church faces...and to the best of my research at it happens, to update you on what is going on at convention.

Blessings to you all and I hope you have a wonderful summer,
Fr. Chuck

Historical notes and trivia:

In the first 150 years or so as a nation there were more Episcopal presidents than of any other denomination.

Church Secretary

Elly Freyer

Treasurer

Bob Hines

Financial Administrator

Karla Porter

Music Director

Karla Porter

Praise Team Leader

Debbie Mann

Youth Minister

Debbie Veldkamp

Minister of Buildings and Grounds

Dick Wernick

Tidings Editor

Elly Freyer

eafreyer@earthlink.net

Webmasters

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Jo Davidsmeyer

Vestry:

Administration

Ron Hurley, Senior Warden

Bruce Simington, Junior Warden

Outreach

Rich Uttich

Larry DuBartell

Evangelism

Brenda Bunker

Pastoral Care

Irene Wernick

Marilyn Davis

Christian Formation

Laura Plush

Jeannine Martin



In Memoriam

Richard Frank Gerhart

October 18, 1927 – June 20, 2009

On June 27, 2009 parish family and friends celebrated the life of Dick Gerhart who went home to be with the Lord on June 20. Dick and his wife, Inge, have been parish members since 1994 and have been active in parish life. Dick is past treasurer of the parish...a position he held for three years...as well as being active in both stewardship and finance. His heart was in the strength and growth of the parish.

Dick was a graduate of Olney High School, Philadelphia (1945), Gipson Institute of Accounting (1951), Stoner Graduate School of Banking, Rutgers Univ. (1967), and he held a BA in Business and Finance from Pacific Western Univ. He served in the Army from Nov. 1945 - 1948 and spent 30 months in Frankfurt, Germany.

Among Dick's many activities he was an active member, and served in several leadership roles, of the Rotary Club of South Manatee County. He served in leadership for the Garden Lakes Home Owners Association, and before moving to Florida he served as member of the judges committee for the Miss America Pageant in Atlantic City, NJ.

Dick will be missed, and our prayers are with Inge, son Robert, and family. Dick's ashes will be interred at a family site outside Philadelphia.

MONTHLY OUTREACH REPORT

THANKS TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU WHO HAVE SO GENEROUSLY CONTRIBUTED TO OUR 4TH SUNDAY OUTREACH GATHERINGS.

IN MAY WE SENT A CHECK FOR \$200.00 TO THRONE OF GRACE FOR THEIR MEN'S RECOVERY MINISTRY. IN JUNE WE SENT A \$266.00 CHECK TO GIFTS FROM GOD IN SARASOTA TO HELP SUPPORT THE POOR AND HOMELESS THEY MINISTER TO ON A DAILY BASIS.

THESE GIFTS ARE ONLY MADE POSSIBLE BY YOUR CARING AND BY YOUR CONTINUING GENEROSITY.

Larry DuBartell and Rich Uttich, Outreach Commissioners



We had a week-ful of FUN!

Thanks to Jeannine, Irene, Theresa, James, Larry, Bob and everyone who worked so hard to make Gadgets Garage a great success. And thanks for all the help in making our robots.



Guess what? We have enough money to buy a goat, a brood of chickens and fish to stock a pond for families in need.

Who are we?

Annabelle, Emily, Jacob, Hayley, Jay, Will, Julia, Allison and two friends.



Daughters of the King

The following, we hope, will answer some of your questions about Daughters of the King.

The Daughters of the King is an order (not organization) for women who are Communicants of the Episcopal church, churches in communion with it, or churches in the Episcopate. Members undertake a Rule of Life, incorporating the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service. By reaffirmation of the promises made at Baptism and Confirmation, a Daughter pledges herself to a life-long program of prayer, service, and evangelism, dedicated to the spread of Christ's Kingdom and the strengthening of the spiritual life of her parish.

At our July meeting (second Sunday in the month) we will form a committee to start planning our **Second Annual Prayer Breakfast** in November. (The date to be announced.) The entire Church of Nativity will once again be invited to come and share prayers for our church, community, and nation.

Members of our Chapter, Blessed Nativity, are: Judi McCullough, president; June Hanley, vice president; Nicki Vance, secretary; Nancy Hurley, treasurer; Ros Hall, Deb Teahan, Nancy John Langdon, Marge Badger, Darla Clark, Mary E. Hamlin, Laura Sturtecky, and Phyllis Alloggio. If someone needs prayer, you may call any member and she will pass it on to the other members.

Our meetings are the second Sunday of the month. We open with prayer, do a bible study, discuss old and new business, prepare a list of requested prayers for the month,(all prayers are confidential) and pray over "prayer blankets that have been blessed".

Two ministries of the Daughters are: giving prayer blankets to those for whom we pray ; and we also give members of the military scarves with Psalm 91 imprinted on them.

Submitted by Judi McCullough, President

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions about joining our Order.

Flower Guild Update

Following are the dates which have not been selected for sponsorship. Please consider giving flowers in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for a birthday or anniversary so that we can fill up the empty dates! By the way, don't you think the Guild members have been doing an outstanding job?

Please call the office if you would like one of the following Sundays....

August 9	August 30	September 13	September 27	October 4
October 11	October 18	October 25	November 22	November 29

(Two arrangements \$35.00)

P.S. Don't forget the Sanctuary Candle sign up book.

July Birthdays

4. Ben Combs
5. Martin Padarathsingh
5. AnnaBelle Plush
6. Barbara Wildgoose
6. Russ Hunt
7. Shirley Miska
10. Edie Phillips
12. Ron Cork
15. Anna Slaterpryce
16. Joe Schifano
17. Margaret Morey
17. Phil Coffaro
17. Sharon McConnell
18. Bill Stemple
19. Eileen Schifano
19. Judy Neimeyer
19. Judy Bullen
22. Nicki Vance
24. Charlie Burke
24. Alisa Cassista
25. Emily Wunderlich
27. Robbie Simington
28. Sue Kow
28. Brad Lewis
30. Nancy Hurley
30. Marcia Simington
31. Ed Patrylow



July Anniversaries

24. Ed & Edie Phillips



Golf League News

A monthly column written by Dick Berg

5/19 ~ In between rains we got our Tuesday golf finished. 3 under Par 33 was scored by Lorraine Peters, Dick Gerhart, Ron Enyart and Terry Honroth to claim top honors.

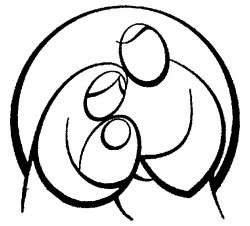
5/26 ~ 5 groups enjoyed a beautiful day on the links. The champions on this day were Marguerite Hatfield, Nancy Hurley, Fr Gerry Bennett and Mark Peelor, as they fired a 31 (5 under Par).

6/2 ~ The defending champs (plus Fr. Chuck) started like a whirlwind as they were 3 under after 2 holes when Fr. Chuck hit his second shot on the second hole into the hole for an eagle. However, they finished second to the team of Tom Badger, Mel Zang, Rich Enyart and Dick Berg who scored 31.

6/9 ~ All teams finished within two strokes. The quartet of Tom Badger, Rich Enyart, Rich Zang and Dick Berg prevailed in the end scoring 32 to win.

6/16 ~ For several years (4) the lowest score ever shot was 30. In the space of four months that record fell as 29 (7 under Par) was registered by the group of Marguerite Hatfield, Lorraine Peters, Joe Downs, Ron Hurley and Raymond Kow for the fourth time. I might add that Marguerite Hatfield was on those teams 3 times! Great golf, Marguerite!

Tidings July 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*4th Sunday: Gifts From God Ministries	** Outreach Ingathering	SECOND SUNDAY AT 12:30 DOK MEETING	1 10am Healing Eucharist 10:30 Bandages	2	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY
5 7:30am Said Eucharist 9am Praise Eucharist 10am Sunday School 11am Traditional Eucharist	6 7pm Praise Team Practice	7 1:00pm Golf League	8 10am Healing Eucharist 10:30 Bandages	9	10 FREE COFFEE 7:30-9:30 5:30pm Toastmasters	11
12 7:30am Said Eucharist 9am Praise Eucharist 10am Sunday School 11am Traditional Eucharist	13 7pm Praise Team Practice	14 1:00pm Golf League	15 10am Healing Eucharist 10:30 Bandages	16	17 FREE COFFEE 7:30-9:30 5:30pm Toastmasters	18
19 7:30am Said Eucharist 9am Praise Eucharist 10am Sunday School 11am Traditional Eucharist	20 7pm Praise Team Practice	21 1:00pm Golf League	22 10am Healing Eucharist 10:30 Bandages	23	24 FREE COFFEE 7:30-9:30 5:30pm Toastmasters	25
26* ** 7:30am Said Eucharist 9am Praise Eucharist 10am Sunday School 11am Traditional Eucharist	27 7pm Praise Team Practice	28 1:00pm Golf League	29 10am Healing Eucharist 10:30 Bandages	30	31 FREE COFFEE 7:30-9:30 5:30pm Toastmasters	

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

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Thank You, Lord, for:



God Bless America



July 2009

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:

Sundays

7:30am Said Eucharist

9:00am Praise Eucharist

10:00am Sunday School

11:00am Traditional Eucharist

Wednesdays

10:00am Healing Eucharist