



Otey Notes



WHAT'S NEW IN CHRISTIAN FORMATION?

The Christian Formation Academic Year came to a close in early May. On April 28th, we celebrated the gifts and talents of our wonderful Sunday School teachers with a reception in Brooks Hall of ice cream and cake prepared by Ginny Capel. Each of our teachers was recognized and given a Blue Chair Gift Card to enjoy with their family and friends.

This year, we were blessed with a very devoted and gifted group of teachers! Anchoring our oldest Godly Play class, grades 3-5, with creative lessons were Michael and Kana Goldsmith and Anne Seiters. Barbara Prunty, Peggy Peterson, Beth Charlton, and Ashley Block (C '13) provided wonderful and crafty lessons for our Godly Play II students in grades 1-2. Nicole Noffsinger-Frazier, Jeff Frazier, Rebecca VanDeVen, and Kelley Williams created a safe and joyful place for our Godly Play I students, ages 3-5, to learn about the Bible each week.

Jill Mollica faithfully kept all our children and teachers supplied with food and drink for the classes' weekly "Feast."

Our Youth and Adults were blessed with a rich and informative Confirmation Class led by Betty Carpenter and Fr. Joe Ballard. On April 7, 2013, Bishop John Bauerschmidt confirmed/received nine new Episcopalians! Our Youth also had the imaginative and energetic leadership of Alex and Kathryn Bruce during their Advent season class.

Our Adult offerings this year were anchored by Pete Trenchi who faithfully leads The Lectionary Class all year round and who offers a witty "title" for his class at the early service announcements that has worshippers pondering and smiling. Our Adult series began during the Advent



semester with the "Prison Ministry" series coordinated by Betty Carpenter with guest presentations by Christine Hopkins (Franklin County Jail Transition Program), Rev. Scott James (Kairos Prison Ministry), and Jamie Moeller (Tennesseans vs. the Death Penalty). Our team of John Grammer, Brown Patterson, and Robin Reed then led "*Three Simple Rules: Do no Harm; Do Good; Stay in Love with God.*" Rev. JoAnn Barker was recognized for her well-received "*Handel's Messiah*" classes during both seasons of Advent and Lent.

Adults also were able to "*Journey with Luke*" thanks to the leadership of Rev. Bill Hethcock and inspiring presentations from Rev. Chris Bryan, Pam Cochran, Paul Holloway, and Robin Reed. Our final series, "*End of Life Issues*," was anchored by Bob Burns who discussed "*Estate Planning and Management*" and Dr. Zell Hoole who explored "*The Five Wishes*."

Please remember to thank each of our Sunday School teachers who give so generously of their time, talent, and wisdom! Our Christian Formation Committee which is composed of Kathryn Bruce, Steve Burnett, Bill Hethcock, Brown Patterson, Robert Black, and Robin Reed will be working over the summer to design offerings for next year, train our teachers, and hear your thoughts on programs each of you would enjoy being part of at Otey Parish! Happy Summer!

---- Robin Reed



There's good news and bad news. The good news is about all of the activity that is going on at the little yellow house on the corner. Clients are coming, volunteers are showing up, the inside temperature is tolerable and we have received some unexpected gifts. The bad news is that all of the activity is another indicator of the deep need that exists in this community. So many of our neighbors face struggles that seem insurmountable. People in this community are hungry, lives are broken and our clients are coming in record numbers for food and assistance with medical and dental needs. This is Sewanee after all, how can it be? It is fact that there is widespread poverty here and as a church we must continue to show the love of Christ through our actions and work with the ministry of Community Action Committee. Everything we do counts....from monetary donations to remembering to bring groceries on Pantry Sunday to stopping by CAC to offer help, to encouraging your children to save their pennies, it all counts. We can make a difference. Volunteers are needed to pack groceries and pick up food from Winchester each month. Call us!

Betty Carpenter



FIRE ON THE MOUNTAIN

Fire on the Mountain closes out the 2012-13 academic year with "Mission on the Mountain". With budgetary challenges and teenagers scattering for the summer, the perfect solution which works the best for the most is to focus on the many unmet needs in our own community. Highlights of the week include hosting a Vacation Bible School for adults with special needs. It is great to watch the interaction and compassion shown by our youth to those who are often forgotten. The outdoor chapel is in need of a good spring cleaning and there are several CAC clients who can use a helping hand. There will be time during the week for reflection and prayer interwoven in the weeks' activities. We will welcome several youth groups who make Sewanee their summer destination and count down the days when our new building will allow us to expand the possibilities for our youth.





The Otey Care Team is a coordinated effort in caring for Otey Parishioners and others with needs. The Overall coordinator is Karen Keele. Team members are Ann Seiters representing Stephen Ministries; Kat O'Donohue representing Folks At Home; Carol Sampson who is responsible for Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEV's); and Lisa Howick, who arranges for meals to be delivered to a parishioner or friend in need. If you or someone you know might benefit from one or several of these services we invite you to contact any member of the team.

In our series of reports from the various components of the Care Team, this article features Stephen Ministry. To refresh your memory the purpose of the Stephen Ministry is to provide Christian Caring in our community. This ministry appears to be mysterious to many folks and understandably so, as it is a quiet, caring ministry done in a strictly confidential manner. Routinely, a caregiver (a trained Stephen Minister) meets weekly with a care receiver (someone going through a rough time or life crisis). The Christian caregiving is done in a confidential and compassionate manner being sensitive to those in need. The role of the caregiver is one of listening and being supportive in a Christian way. All aspects of the visiting are kept strictly confidential.

The Stephen Ministry component of the Otey Care team is alive and well. Many caregivers are meeting with care receivers on a regular basis. A new class has started their fifty hours of training under the leadership of Bobbye Ballard. The folks working hard on this wonderful training are: Larry Barker, David Burnett, Beverly Chase, and Kathy Pack. Father Joe says that we could use a few more men involved in this work.

Let us remember to be ever mindful of the needs of others. Please call one of the team members listed in paragraph one if you think an area of this Care Team can be helpful to you or someone in your niche of our community.

Ann Seiters

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The Rev. Joe Ballard
Rector

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Henry Chase, Assistant Treasurer

Amy Burns, Junior Warden

Steve Blount

Alexander Bruce

Theresa Shackelford

Carol Sampson

Karen Keele

Pratt Paterson

David Spaulding

Beth Wiley, Clerk

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING AND THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED OUR PRAYERS:

Linda Bachand, Amanda Bailey, Elvie Biddle, Rob Boatner, Christine Booth, John Bratton, Ann Brewster, Frankye Bright, Jonathan Burnett, Stuart Cook, Meta Crane, Sally and Jim Franklin, Ray Green, Brooks Gunn, Dennis Hastings, Patricia Hawkins, RJ Hughes, Patrick Irwin, Robert Jones, Karen Keele, Howell Lynch, Mary Farris Lynch, Julie Marsman, Ruth Matlock, Ray Meeks, Lucy Morgan, Cheri Peters, Jennifer Roberts, Marion Rectenwald, Michael and Miranda Rectenwald, Sister Lucy Shetters, Dessie Taylor, Lethia Watson, Tyler White, Harry Yeatman and Peggy Young.

We pray for those serving in Afghanistan and for their families, especially Ian Duncan, Chris Wilkerson, and Dan Chiriboga.

Don't Forget!

The deadline for submissions for the July 2013 issue of Otey Notes is:

Wednesday, June 19

Email submissions to:
spicergirls@nerdshack.com

Please include "Otey Notes" in the subject.



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