



Parish Guide

Newsletter of The Church of the Epiphany
Washington, DC

October 2005
Vol. CXXXVIII, No. 09

Rector's Journal

By the Rev. Randolph Charles

Fall Stewardship.

Stewardship is about a relationship between God and us. It is about taking care of, managing, and stewarding that relationship and the various expressions and aspects of our relationship with God. Stewardship is about our acknowledgment that God has given us much, that we are grateful, and that we choose to give back to God out of a sense of deep gratitude.



We are grateful to God for the Creation, the world in which we live, for our very own lives, for the human communities and groupings to which we belong, and for the ability to take care of ourselves, to earn a living. During the month of October, every Sunday will have a stewardship theme:

- October 2 **Environmental Stewardship**
- October 9 **Personal Stewardship**
- October 16 **Communal Stewardship**
- October 23 **Financial Stewardship**
- October 30 **Pledge Sunday**

Each one of these themes will be addressed in the liturgies of the day. There will also be teaching materials to help us explore more deeply the meaning of stewardship in our faith journeys and in our lives.

Another aspect of our fall stewardship program is **Epiphany Clusters**. An Epiphany Cluster is a group of 12-20 parishioners who live in the same basic area and meet for a fellowship/meal/program event for around 2 hours during one of the weekends in October. The purpose of the Epiphany Cluster meetings is twofold: to get parishioners together to have fun and build relationships, and to hear from parishioners what you think is the most faithful use of parish funds.

Each Epiphany Cluster meeting will be hosted by a parishioner in his/her home or at the church, and the program part of the gathering will be facilitated by a member of the vestry or staff.

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Home in New Orleans

by Dee Naquin Shafer

Sept. 7, 2005

It is early in September, 2005, and this month it is 15 years since my father died. He would be 77. I've often wondered what he would think or say about what is going on in our family and in the world. The last week especially I've wondered. Now that New Orleans is basically gone—the city my father came from and where almost all of his family remained—what would Dad think?

New Orleans makes me think about his cooking. It was from that part of the country. The last time I was there, in 1995, Aunt Leona served potato salad and jambalaya that was just like Dad's. You could close your eyes and it was exactly the same. Of course. They learned in the same place, from Grandma.

Good food is a big deal in Dad's family. They all lived just outside of New Orleans, in Harahan and Kenner and Metairie. Visiting and eating Grandma's cooking was something to look forward to. The meals were simple and tasty, like rice and beans or gumbo made with shrimp that Grandpa caught just that day.

When we visited, the family would get together for parties, filling up the tiny wooden house, eating and drinking. Sometimes they'd put on music and dance out in the backyard. We'd do the hokey-pokey or the limbo rock. After awhile, the adults would cram into Grandma and Grandpa's bedroom, where the one air conditioner was. They'd start drinking and gossiping and stop keeping close tabs on the kids and we could go exploring.

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Note: The deadline for submitting articles to the November Parish Guide Newsletter is Wednesday, October 19.

Parishioner News

We celebrate these new beginnings and accomplishments:

“Let us give thanks to God for all God’s gifts so freely bestowed upon us.”

Sarah Papazoglakis who begins as Development Associate for the Young Benefactors Program at the Smithsonian Institute

We welcome these persons into the life of our parish

“All praise and thanks to you, most merciful Father, for adopting us as your children, for incorporating us into your holy Church, and for making us worthy to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.”

D.J. Kingsbury, Jenafer Bell and Jeff Howard, Frances and Wayne McOwen

We say good-bye to members

John Alexander who moved to Savannah, Georgia

Jennifer, Richard, John and Josephine Walsh who have moved to Venezuela

We remember those who have died

“Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servants”

Hugh Sanderson, September 11, 2005

Benjamin Davies, son of Theresa, brother of Emmanuel and Annie, September 14, 2005

Dorothea Shull, mother of Doretta, September 14, 2005

We remember these persons in our prayers

For all who seek healing, especially:

For all whose lives have been lost and affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita

For the members and family members of Epiphany who serve in troubled areas of the world, especially Robert Curris, Keith Scoon and Nick Shafer

For all who seek healing, especially: Ed Adams, Margaret Barge, Theresa Davies, Floyd Godfrey, Elizabeth Graham, Cornell Jackson, William Person, Edgar Romig, Norwyn Rowe, Flora Symons, and Kirk White;

For Aaron, Jim Argodale, Martha Barger, Adam Beattie, Winston Blackman, Emily Blount, Bill Bonwitt, Wanda Brewer, Brianna, Helen Burg, James Capen, Elena Curris, Mary Davenport, Ruth Dillard, Beth Erman, Andrew Ferrill, Kit Galdi, Kathy Gannon-Briggs, Rowena Garner, Fred Gustafson, Denise Hammes, Kathryn Hardie, Robert A. Hern, Millicent Hutt, Dagmar Korth, Rick Knettel, Annie Maly, Frank Marlowe, Donald Marsh, Claudia McClannahan, Gary McNeil, Jeanette Michael, Bonnie Murphy, Hubert Nedd, Israel Rafalovich, Allene Robinson, Wanda Rucker, Damu Smith, Leslie Smith, Jr., Crystal Taylor, Ofelia Vitek, Ryan von Gogh, the von Gogh family, Maureen Waters, Carmen Williams, and Regina Williams

For the members of the Stewardship Committee.

We celebrate these September Birthdays

Sue Boyer, Frances McOwen, Abigail Nichols, Tricia Rhodes, Gigi Barse, Max Burg, Shane Farthing, Frank Miller, Nora Ottley, Julie McConnell, Nancy Augustine, Brian Streaty, John Walsh, Cathie Prevour, Irene Wu, Tom Riggs, Kimball Beck, Samuel Wright, Gloria Said, Susan Weinbeck, Kelly Cameron, Teresa Hobgood, Lisa Watson, Emma Bass, Yvette Smith, Roosevelt Smith, Susan DeLaurentis, Naomi Govindaraj, Josephine Walsh, Lydia Taylor, Jennifer Cate, Sharon Hermonstine.

The monthly “Parishioner News” acknowledges the transitions in life, accomplishments of our members, and the times of celebration. Please tell us of your news by phoning the parish office or emailing us at info@epiphanydc.org

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There were so many cousins, kids our age. I was enamored of the extended family, their New Orleans accents, the homemade root beer, and the tropical setting. A fig tree grew in Grandma's back yard. There was sugar cane too, thick enough to play hide and seek in. The biggest adventure was crossing through a field over to the levee to look at the river.

Grandma's Harahan neighborhood was very different from the small-town Oklahoma suburb that we called home. The houses were mostly wood with tar paper, not brick, and were much smaller than ours. Few yards were fenced, and the street was lined with crushed oyster shells.

It was paved when I visited in 1995 and there were fences, but most everything else in the neighborhood looked the same. I was in New Orleans for a few days with my company for a convention. We stayed in the Hyatt Regency and I jogged around the Superdome next door. Aunt Carol drove me to the Harahan neighborhood.

Family I hadn't seen in 20 years came over. They'd heard Andrew's daughter was in town. My father's name was Joseph Andrew but they called him by his middle name, the way they did his brothers: Joseph Kirby, Joseph Percy, Joseph Andrew and the youngest Joseph whose middle name I didn't know, who everyone called—and still calls—Tookie.

After more than 20 years away it felt familiar in New Orleans, taking in the thick, humid air, the smell of seafood and swamp, the heat, the music, the sound of French patois on the streets. I walked through tourist shops on Bourbon and Canal Streets and in several places heard a beautiful, slightly melancholy ballad, anchored by an accordion and sung in French that stuck in my head. I bought the "Cajun Party" CD with "Dance De Mardi Gras," partly because of that song and partly because the accordion was played by Sammy Naquin, surely a distant relative.

Right now, my father might not be brooding over New Orleans being closed down. So far as he was concerned, you work hard and you pay your bills, something he learned in a large family where money was tight and life was a struggle. The family stuck together to take care of each other, the way the extended family is doing now. In the aftermath of the



hurricane, relatives have moved in with other family in Red Rock, TX and in Jackson, MS. But my father did rail about how the government "doesn't look out for the little guy," so I have an idea of some of his reaction about what has happened in New Orleans.

I've been meaning to return to the city for family reunions for 10 years. The worst thing about Hurricane Katrina to me is how it makes clear that you just don't know what can happen. Even after Sept. 11, it shocks me. Maybe that's just American naivete. We've had calamities here but not like in other countries, where people have long experience with losing family and possessions and entire cities.

The hurricane makes clear to me though how hopeful and fragile phrases like, "through the years we all will be together, if the fates allow" truly are. And I pray there is a home in New Orleans that we all can return to.

Continued from Page 1, Col 1

I hope and pray that every parishioner will be able to attend an Epiphany Cluster meeting. Someone will be calling you in the next few weeks to issue you an invitation. Please say yes. If you need transportation, we will arrange it. We want the entire parish participate in this unique event of fellowship and faithfulness.

Faith Basics.

Faith Basics is an introductory or refresher course about the Christian faith and how we practice it here at The Church of the Epiphany. It is also an excellent opportunity to get to know some fellow parishioners. The next course will be offered October 2-30, after church from 12:30 to 2:00pm, in the Willard Room. The schedule for Faith Basics is the following:

October 2	Prayer
October 9	Scripture
October 16	Liturgy
October 23	Faith Community
October 30	Ministry

If you would like more information, please contact Susan Walker, Anne-Marie Jeffery, or me.

Urban Missioner Log



September has flown past. Fall is officially here. Events are coming and going very quickly. The Downtown Ice Cream party was a success. Several of our weekday associates came out to help as well as parishioners and I believe we served over 300 people. It was hard to tell since we were scooping ice cream instead of distributing cups as we did in the past. The ice cream scooping was a lot easier than we thought it would be, and some of our scoopers claimed to have enjoyed the experience. Many thanks go out to our scoopers, Errol Small, Leigh Jackson, Margot Young and Susan Walker. As usual, butter pecan was the most popular flavor.

At the party, Epiphany flyers were on display including the one for the Blessing of the Animals on October 2nd which seemed to be very popular. Bob Stevens manned the flyer table while Brenda Morris roamed around being an Epiphany presence. Pat Pickering's new greyhound, Sweet Pea, did her best to advertise by wearing some of the Blessing of the Animal flyers. Yasmin Aziz sold bracelets to help the animals who lost their families and home in Hurricane Katrina. Gig Barse walked around handing out the flyers and talking to people about the blessing.

People also had the opportunity to take a quiz about Epiphany. If you got all the answers right, your name was entered in a drawing for a Border's gift certificate. The hardest question on the quiz was the one about the Welcome Table. See below. While the majority of people chose a, about a third of them chose c.

What is The Welcome Table program at The Church of the Epiphany?

- a. A Sunday morning breakfast for 200 homeless and working poor
- b. A Wednesday morning breakfast for 200 homeless and working poor
- c. A program to welcome people to the neighborhood

Our music program, Downtown Sounds for DC Kids, begins September 30th and continues with 5 more shows. Look for the flyer on the Outreach Committee Bulletin board. I've discovered that it is difficult to get schools to sign up for programs in the first month of school when everything is crazy. We

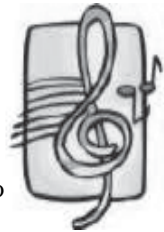
do have some schools interested but I'm looking forward to October when things will have settled down.

The Help the Homeless Walkathon is coming up fast on Saturday, November 19. This is one of the fundraisers we do every year. Epiphany can't run The Welcome Table on only our pledge income so we apply for grants and do fundraisers. It is a great getting-to-know-people event which for the Epiphany crew usually ends at Reeves for brunch. It is also a great way to talk to your friends and family about homelessness.

Join the Epiphany team by going to <http://helpthehomelessdc.org/>. Follow the Walker Registration instructions until you get a choice between registering as an individual walker or joining a team. Pick joining a team and select The Church of the Epiphany which is the name of our team. On the registration form, remember to select CEWT – The Church of the Epiphany Welcome Table Program as your beneficiary organization. Registration forms are also available at the church office.

Music Notes

By Margot Young, Interim Music Administrator



TUESDAY CONCERT SERIES

The Tuesday Concert Series continues to draw an enthusiastic and generous audience. The performers on September 6 were kind enough to designate the freewill offering to Hurricane Katrina relief efforts, and that amount will be added to other offerings from Epiphany for the relief effort through the Episcopal Church.

Coming musical events include:

Tuesday October 6 - The Washington Bach Consort, J. Reilly Lewis, director

Tuesday, October 11 - The Levine School of Music: October 11: Sarah Weatherbee, violin, Vasily Popov, cello

Tuesday, October 20 - Music of Japan: Washington Toho Koto Society

Tuesday, October 27 - Palestrina Choir, Michael Harrison, director

New Communion Bread Ministry: Faith, Hope and Loaves

By Duncan Stevens, Worship Committee Leader

As Randolph announced last month, he and the Worship Committee decided that Epiphany would start breaking real, home-baked bread to celebrate the Eucharist. There were several reasons: many find theological significance in having a single loaf of bread serve as the Body of Christ when people share Communion; whereas wafers are individual pieces that were never united in one whole, a single loaf from which all partake speaks to the unity of the people as Christ's body. A single loaf also harkens back more directly to the original Last Supper that the weekly Eucharist commemorates and reenacts. The artificiality of wafers is also a concern: some find disconcerting the lack of resemblance between a communion wafer and any bread that anyone, including Christ and his disciples, has ever eaten at a meal. (After all, in the early days of the church, the celebration of the Eucharist was done as an *agape* feast, an actual meal.)

But where will the real, home-baked bread come from? That's where you come in. Kathrine Ebert has generously gotten the new communion bread era started, baking several different delicious loaves of bread over the past few weeks for Epiphany to use, but the Worship Committee would like others in the parish to bake bread as well, to give others the opportunity to share in this ministry. Members of Epiphany offering their time and talents to feed each other reflects and furthers the ministry spirit of the church in many ways.

Accordingly, we announce the formation of Faith, Hope and Loaves, Epiphany's new communion bread ministry. Each week, a member of Faith, Hope and Loaves will bake two loaves of bread (one for each Sunday liturgy); any excess will be used for weekday Eucharists. We plan to try several different recipes before deciding on a standard. It has even been suggested that unleavened bread of the type that the Israelites used at Passover might be a worthwhile experiment. We hope that many different people will offer their diverse baking talents and that Epiphany will be enriched by their offerings.

If you would like to join Faith, Hope and Loaves, or would like more details, please contact Duncan Stevens, Kathrine Ebert or Randolph Charles at the church, 202-347-2635. We look forward to your contributions.

Architecture to Transcend: A Writing Workshop in October

On October 19 at 7:00pm, Epiphany will host an evening workshop led by Nan Phifer, author of *Memoirs of the Soul: Writing Your Spiritual Autobiography* and associate director of The Oregon Writing Project at the University of Oregon in Eugene. Nan is a gifted teacher who helps others see the sacred in their daily lives. She was with us last year when she presented a workshop on writing a spiritual memoir. Twenty persons gathered in the Willard Room to reflect on their lives and follow the guidance that Nan gave to our endeavors. This year she will help us look at our experiences of worship and how architecture can be a touchstone for writing about our connecting with God. Here is what Nan has written about the evening workshop:



By means of writing we'll identify architectural characteristics that move us beyond self-contained smallness into the mysterious presence of God. We'll write to remember and to analyze the way flame, water, earth, and air uplift our spirits. We'll consider which sounds, smells, lights, colors, tastes and touch expand our souls and unite us with The Christ in each other.

Together we'll identify architectural elements that contribute to the sites where we worship, commune, inquire, and serve; and we'll ponder the ways material structures affect how we transcend and are transformed. You can read more about Nan's work at her website:

www.memoirworkshops.com.

The October 19 workshop will be followed by a four-week **Fellowship & Light** series probing other ways that we are transformed by our experiences of worship. Through presentations and group discussions, we will explore these actions of liturgy and our responses to them:

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Oct 26 | How does the liturgy touch us? |
| Nov 2 | How does the liturgy move us? |
| Nov 9 | How does the liturgy shape us? |
| Nov 16 | How does the liturgy send us? |

Fellowship & Light begins Wednesday, October 26, one week after the workshop. Each session will follow our usual format:

6:30pm: Simple supper of soup or pasta, bread, fruit. \$3 donation requested.

7:00pm: Meditative prayer service with candles, chant, and scripture. A guest musician, harpist, Eliza Bussey, will join us October 26.

7:30-8:30pm: Presentation and discussion of "Liturgy that Transforms Us."

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Wedding, Juan Estrada and Irene Chase
2 20st Sunday after Pentecost 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Blessing of the Animals, Choir Rehearsal 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Creation Eucharist, Godly Play 12:15 Hospitality Hour 12:30 Faith Basics: Prayer	3 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer	4 12:10 Concert: The Washington Bach Consort 3:00 – 9:00 Olan Mills photographs	5 9:00-6:00 Labyrinth 10:00 Parish Staff Meeting 12:10 Holy Eucharist 3:00 – 9:00 Olan Mills photographs 6:30 Fellowship and Light	6 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	7 10:00 Downtown Sounds for DC Kids 12:10 Holy Eucharist	9 5:30 Wedding rehearsal 7:30 Catholic University Symphony Orchestra Concert
9 21st Sunday after Pentecost 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Getting Ready, Choir Rehearsal 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist, Godly Play 12:15 Hospitality Hour 12:30 Faith Basics: Scripture 12:45 Spiritual Discernment Working Group 3:00 Keri Hall/Ed McGovern Wedding	10 Church and Parish Office Closed in Observance of Columbus Day	11 12:10 Concert - The Levine School of Music	12 9:00-5:00 Labyrinth 12:10 Holy Eucharist 6:30 Fellowship and Light	13 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	14 12:10 Holy Eucharist	15 9:00 Regions I and II Meeting
16 22nd Sunday after Pentecost 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Getting Ready, Choir Rehearsal 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist, Godly Play 12:15 Hospitality Hour 12:30 Faith Basics: Liturgy 5:00 Washington Metro. Philharmonic Concert	17 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer	18 12:10 Concert: The Music of Japan: Washington Toho Society 6:30 Group Spiritual Direction	19 9:00-5:00 Labyrinth 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:00 Writing Workshop: Architecture to Transcend	20 12:10 Holy Eucharist - 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	21 10:00 Downtown Sounds for DC Kids 12:10 Holy Eucharist 5:30 Wedding Rehearsal	22 4:00 Janet Emery/Peter Flynn Wedding
23 23rd Sunday after Pentecost 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Getting Ready, Choir Rehearsal 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist, Godly Play 12:15 Hospitality Hour 12:30 Faith Basics: Community	24 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer 6:00 Vestry	25 12:10 Concert – The Palestrina Choir	26 9:00-5:00 Labyrinth 12:10 Holy Eucharist 6:30 Fellowship and Light	27 12:10 Holy Eucharist - 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	28 St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles 12:10 Holy Eucharist	29
30 24th Sunday after Pentecost 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 10:00 Getting Ready, Choir Rehearsal 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist-Pledge Sunday, Godly Play 12:15 Hospitality Hour 12:30 Faith Basics: Ministry	31 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer					

Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief

by Jill Bezek



When Hurricane Katrina hit, I knew I had to go to the Gulf region to help out somehow. I had taken a series of disaster services classes this summer through the American Red Cross, including mass care, shelter operations, logistics and family services. So I put in my paperwork with the Red Cross and two days later found myself at National Airport.

I flew out of Washington on Friday, September 2nd for my two-week deployment as a volunteer on the national disaster team with the American Red Cross. Our meeting point was Montgomery, Alabama. From there, a convoy of seven cars with 30 Red Cross volunteers from across the country drove five hours to Biloxi, Mississippi.

The devastation was unbelievable. It was not like any war zone I'd seen anywhere in the world. When Hurricane Katrina made landfall, all the buildings were flattened and in many places only foundation slabs remained where houses once stood. There was no debris for residents to go through on the empty slabs. The photos in the press only show small snapshots of the devastation. Standing in the middle of a neighborhood, there was destruction as far as you could see.

Our team worked in a shelter at Biloxi High School, distributing clothing and serving hot meals. The shelter housed about 130 residents. People would come into the shelter with only the clothes on their backs. We would put an arm around them and ask them what they needed. The response generally was, "I've lost everything." Based in the school library, we gave them clothing, blankets, pillows, towels, toothbrushes and a little hope. There was a look of great relief on their faces, knowing they had a clean set of clothes and a safe, dry place to sleep at the shelter that night.



As the basic needs of the residents were met, the school library became a gathering place for residents to pass the time. Several residents offered to help us sort and fold clothing, which we gladly accepted. It was such an honor to get to know them during this time in their lives. One woman worked at a church in Biloxi with a ministry to the homeless, similar to Epiphany's. She had nearly drowned during the hurricane and had to be revived. She and the other shelter residents had different opportunities to leave the shelter during the course of the 2 weeks—buses to Georgia, or other shelters in the community. Finally, an opportunity came for her and about 10 other parishioners to go to a church in Corinth, Mississippi. She wrestled with the decision to leave the community. Finally, one day she said to me, "Jill, God has sent many options to take me out of this shelter to start a new life. I don't want to miss the helicopter."

When I left Biloxi on September 16th, the plan was to close the shelter the next day, so preparations could begin to open school again for the students. There were still over 60 people who had nowhere to go, since many had been homeless before the hurricane. They were offered options of going to other shelters or tent cities in surrounding communities. As I flew out of Biloxi, I thought of the people's lives that had been touched by this hurricane; how fortunate I was to have a home and community to come back to here; and how close we all are to being in a similar situation where we are dependent on the kindness of strangers.

CALLING ALL LOCAL DOGS, CATS, AND OTHER PETS!!!



The Church of the Epiphany at 1317 G St., NW



is holding its first Blessing of the Animals service
on Sunday, October 2, at 10 a.m.,
to honor the works of St. Francis of Assisi.

Grab your leash or carrier and your owner and join us for this 40-minute service to be held outdoors in our courtyard garden—right at **1317 G Street, ½ block from Metro Center!** Free parking is also available in the PMI garage next door (with validation from the church).

Our doors are wide open to all and a warm welcome awaits you.

Questions? Call us at 202-347-2635 or, e-mail us at info@epiphanydc.org. Also, check out our Web site at www.epiphanydc.org.

SEE YOU ON OCTOBER 2ND!

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THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

The Rev. Randolph Charles, Rector

E-mail: info@epiphanydc.org

Fax: 202-347-7621

Telephone: 202-347-2635

Washington, DC 20005

1317 G Street, NW