



Parish Guide

Newsletter of The Church of the Epiphany
Washington, DC

June 2007
Vol. CCVI No. 26

RECTOR'S JOURNAL

By Randolph Charles

Q&A with the Rector

What's your opinion of the Renovation Plan?

I am very excited! It provides more accessibility throughout the buildings – the church entrance, the parish house entrance, the passageways from the church to the parish house, and an elevator to all four floors. It addresses health and safety issues – more restrooms, easier flow through the buildings, and systems upgrades, especially a new air conditioning system. It brings new life to our worship space – plaster and paint, lights and sound system, columbarium, organ repairs, greater openness and flexibility for liturgy and performances. There will be more space for meetings, events, and activities, such as parish dinners and The Welcome Table; more space for the Mission Center, rehearsals for theater groups, and resident organizations such as Street Sense, YSOP, and the counseling center.

I am very excited about the way that the Renovation Plan develops and preserves our historic buildings. I am even more excited about the way the property improvements reflect the ministries that our parish is called to do: build inclusive community, serve people in need, and celebrate the arts.

Are you concerned about the cost?

Yes and no. The projected cost range for the Renovation Plan is \$8,000,000-\$11,000,000. That's a lot of money, especially for a parish like Epiphany. Yes, I am concerned about finding millions of dollars. The design of the Capital Campaign is that we conduct a Feasibility Study, which is underway now. If that suggests enough support for the Capital Campaign, then we proceed with an internal campaign which will be held in the fall. The entire focus of the internal campaign is on parishioners.

One principle of fundraising is that it is possible to realize commitments of 3 times the amount that the church receives from pledge and plate offerings. Since our pledge and plate figure is \$400,000, it is feasible that the internal campaign amount could be \$1,200,000. That amount, however, sounds very high for our congregation. The Feasibility Study will give us a more accurate picture of the amount the parish might pledge to the campaign.

After the internal campaign is completed, we will conduct an external campaign, which will focus on friends, the community, grants, foundations, and any other source of support we can think of. The external campaign will take place in 2008.

After both the internal and external phases of the Capital Campaign are completed, we will have a dollar figure to

Education Survey Results

By Caroline Klam

Mission Statement: We are called to equip saints of all ages for worship and ministry by telling the story of our faith, by teaching Scripture and the tradition of the church, and by addressing the issues of our culture.

This is Epiphany's mission statement for our education ministry. We have just completed a survey process to explore the needs and wants of our community related to education. Although the response was small, some clear trends were identified, including a desire for more in-depth Bible Study, more exploration of the history and theology of the church and an interest in programs both on Sundays and during the week. If you want to learn more, you can obtain a copy of the survey tabulation from Susan Walker.

We will continue the process of exploring how we can best "equip saints of all ages for worship and ministry," on June 10 and 17 in the Willard Room at 10:00am when the Education Ministry Team will lead an exploration of Diana Butler Bass' paper on Process, Not Program: Creating Congregations of Learning and Practice - Adult Faith Formation for Vital Churches (available on the web at <http://www.congregationalresources.org/AdultFaith/ProcessNotProgram.pdf> or from the parish office. This paper explores the structure, process/practice, content and community of adult formation in the congregation and speaks to each of us about our roles as learner and explorer in our own faith development.

We hope that many of you will join us as we enter the next phase of our development of Christian formation at Epiphany.

Note: The deadline for submitting articles to the July Parish Guide Newsletter is Wednesday, June 27

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.”

Duncan Stevens was honored by the District of Columbia Bar Association’s Annual Business Meeting and Awards Dinner as co-recipient of the Pro Bono Lawyer Award.

Joe Hensley was ordained to the transitional diaconate on May 19 and began his duties as Assistant to the Rector at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church in Durham, NC.

Ann Gillespie was ordained to the transitional diaconate on June 9 and will begin her duties at Christ Church, Alexandria, VA on July 17 as Associate Rector for Pastoral Care and Worship.

Meghan Mason and Alex Iams were married at Epiphany on April 28.

Carolyn Alcordo and Chris Connelly who were married on May 5.

Uchenna Ukaegbu and Westly Alexander were married May 19.

Brad Carpenter and Cyndy Reece were married May 19.

Esther Agbaje graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Minor in Journalism with Honors from George Washington University on May 20, was awarded the Pickering Foreign Affairs Graduate Fellowship, and will be attending the University of Pennsylvania this fall.

Iris Ashley graduates Magna Cum Laude with a GPA of 3.80/4.00 from Strayer University, Washington DC campus on June 23 with a Bachelor of Science in Internetworking Technology and Computer Networking.

Iris has been named to the Alpha Sigma Lamda National Honor Society. This is her second BS degree.

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.”

Roman Fortunato Bautista Elizaga, son of Minerva and Ron Elizaga.

Ella Sophia Bautista King, daughter of Emilia Bautista and David King.

Ella Sophia and Roman Fortunato are grandchildren of Mercedes and Tony Bautista.

We pray for these persons who have died:

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

Jacqueline Jenson, Eric Jenson’s mother, died May 22, 2007

We remember these persons in our prayers

For the members and family members of Epiphany who serve in troubled areas of the world, especially, Keith Scoon, and Floyd Tappin;

For all who seek healing, especially: Ed Adams, Margaret Barge, Joan Bishop, Phil Converse, Theresa Davies, Marcia Doerr, Floyd Godfrey, Bertha Harrison, William Person, Pat Pickering, Norwyn Rowe, Buck Shinkman, Sara Ellen Swatt, and Jerry White;

For Aaron, Jim Argodale, Beverly Bachemin, Franklin Backus, Adam Beattie, Winston Blackman, Robert Blaine, Oswald Bowen, Wanda Brewer, Helen Burg, Naomi Canty, James Capen, Judith Claytor, Marian Cover, Elena Curris, Brian Dillard, Genevieve Duvall, Mary Eager, Ken Ferber, Andrew Ferrill, Shirley Golden, Alan Greene, Fred Gustafson, Ruth Hall, Kathryn Hardie, Elizabeth Henderson, Mike Henderson, Ed Henderson, Millicent and Bill Hutt, Cornell Jackson, Larry Kerns, Rick Knettel, Joy Kraus, George Kurtz, Marilyn LeSeur, David Lyman, Annie Maly, Frank Marlowe, Claudia McClannahan, MeShaun, Adilia Moran, Denise Mosier, Bonnie Murphy, Hubert Nedd, Israel Rafalovich, Jesus Ramirez, Ann Riggs, Allene Robinson, Wanda Rucker, Juanita Simpson, Walter Stumpf, Magdolna Szuprics, Crystal Taylor, Kate Thaxton, Ofelia Vitek, Amy Warder, Maureen Waters, Dee Wertlein, Bobby Wilkerson, Regina Williams, Emma Wojcuilewicz, Tina Wu, Thelma, Evie, Niki, Gurkan, Kevin, Beth, and Brianna.

We celebrate these June Birthdays

Anika Burg, June 3; Idonia Salfarlie, June 5; Billy Okoye and Ray Warren, June 7; Richard Bass, June 8; Michele Roberts, June 13; Freeman Jelks, June 15; Maggie Rowe, June 16; Rosalie Oakes and Annie Wright, June 17; Mildred Forde, June 18; Monica Rusten, June 19; Norah Whitehead, June 23; Susan Jackson, June 25; John Ferrill, June 27; Dalton Tatchell, June 29; and Jonathan Padget, June 30.

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.

“The Building Always Wins”

By Christian M. Clough, Director of Music Ministries

One of the highlights of my liturgical studies at Yale Divinity School was a course in liturgical architecture entitled “The House of the Lord” taught by Jaime Lara. Dr. Lara began the course with the warning, “The building always wins,” a statement attributed to the liturgical scholar Louis Weil. Dr. Lara’s point was that, no matter the liturgical desires of the worshiping community, the strictures imposed by the worship space would, in the end determine – and restrict – what is possible.

Now that the people of Epiphany have received the conceptual drawings for the renovation of our facilities, I want to add my thoughts and opinions to the many others being expressed. I was a latecomer to the Renovation Ministry Team, but had been following their work from the time of my arrival. I was excited about the renovation from the beginning, and continue to be as we move toward action on the plan.

I concur with so many who say that Epiphany is a lovely space. It is grand and spacious, yet still inviting. It has very fine acoustics for both speech and music, and many lovely visual details. It is ornate without being too busy.

At the same time, there are many things about the church space that are—shall we say?—less than felicitous. The side galleries (late accretions) reduce the sense of openness at the crossing and obscure the transept windows. The narthex and space under the rear gallery feel cramped and uninviting. The front wall of the chancel, and especially the grand Epiphany window, are diminished by the utilitarian look of the organ chambers and the low grey walls in front of them. And, the brown door to the storage room behind the pulpit (Augh, the brown door!) is ugly, and is unworthy of the lovely baptistery it mirrors. (The person or persons who approved that door owe us an explanation!)

I hope that you agree that there are many wonderful visual and logistical improvements in the architects’ renderings for the renovated space. The increased wheelchair accessibility, the larger open floor space in the crossing, and the greater flexibility in liturgical configuration are all good news for us. Moving the Phillips Chapel from the west transept to the chancel increases its importance and utility; the current chapel is almost never used for worship services. And, of course, simply repairing the decay of the walls, ceilings, and the chancel flooring will make the room a joy to behold – and to worship in.



After many years of discernment, I sincerely believe that we people of Epiphany have a road map for renewal and growth in these designs.

Even in renovation, the building will win. The walls, floors and ceilings, steps and railings will continue to define our gathering spaces, both liturgical and programmatic. As our community continues to grow and change, we will, of course, continue to contend with our building. However, at this moment in the life of The Church of the Epiphany, we have an exciting, history-making opportunity to make our building once more a strong partner in ministry. Through structural and aesthetic refurbishment, we can, as much as possible, transform our buildings from tired structures that tolerate our activities into a vibrant, welcoming environment that actually enables and facilitates them. A Church of the Epiphany with hospitable entrances, gathering spaces and “necessaries” will assist us in bringing more people through our doors to witness and participate in our work in the name of Jesus Christ. A worship space that proclaims 21st-century liturgical theology will allow us to communicate through our acts of prayer and praise what we members of Epiphany believe about, and hope for from, God and God’s work in the world.

Ironically, our tired, weakened buildings will “win” by even greater margins if we fail to revitalize them. We will be hampered more and more by the costs of responding to failing HVAC, outdated plumbing, buckling floors, falling plaster, tumbling towers and limited accessibility. Their blight will turn people away. Our greatest anxiety, I believe, is not knowing how we answer the question “How can we possibly afford this?”

As I have watched the birthing of this plan, I have grown to believe that we must expect to succeed, and hope and trust that we will. Our life and work together will be so much easier and more invigorating when the renovation is completed, and Epiphany’s buildings will, once again, shine forth to the world the great things that God, and God’s people here, are doing to (in the words of the mission of the Church), “restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.”

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 1:15 Islamic Prayer Service	2
3 1st Sunday After Pentecost: Trinity Sunday 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 7:30 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 9:10 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Choir Rehearsal/Envelope Please 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist/Godly Play 12:15 Coffee Hour 5:00 WMP concert	4 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer 6:00 Community Funding Ministry Team	5 11:00 Street Church Prep. 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert 1:00 Street Church 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training	6 10:00 Labyrinth 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist	7 12:00 Committee of 100 Board 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training	8 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 1:15 Islamic Prayer Service	9
10 The 2nd Sunday After Pentecost 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 7:30 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 9:10 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Choir Rehearsal /Getting Ready 10:00 Study/Discussion of the Education Process 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist 12:15 Coffee Hour	11 St. Barnabas, Apostle 7:00 YSOP 12:00 AA 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer 2:00 YSOP	12 7:00 YSOP 11:00 Street Church prep 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert 1:00 Street Church Liturgy 2:00 YSOP 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training	13 7:00 YSOP 10:00 Labyrinth /Staff Meeting 12:00 AA/ Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 2:00 YSOP 2:00 Street Sense Vendors' Mtg 6:00 Street Sense Editorial Board	14 7:00 YSOP 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 2:00 YSOP 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training	15 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 1:15 Islamic Prayer Service	16
17 The 3rd Sunday After Pentecost 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 7:30 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 9:10 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Choir Rehearsal /Getting Ready 10:00 Study/Discussion of the Education Process 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist 12:15 Coffee Hour	18 7:00 YSOP 12:00 AA 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer 2:00 YSOP	19 7:00 YSOP 11:00 Street Church prep 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert 1:00 Street Church Liturgy 2:00 YSOP 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training 6:30 Group Spiritual Dir. 7:15 Downtown Cluster of Congregations	20 10:00-3:00 Labyrinth 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 2:30 YSOP	21 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training 2:30 YSOP	22 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 1:15 Islamic Prayer Service	23
24 The 4th Sunday After Pentecost 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 7:30 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 9:10 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Choir Rehearsal /Getting Ready 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist 12:15 Coffee Hour	25 The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist 7:00 YSOP 12:00 AA 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer 2:00 YSOP 6:00 Vestry	26 7:00 YSOP 11:00 Street Church prep 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert 1:00 Street Church Liturgy 2:00 YSOP 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training	27 7:00 YSOP 10:00 Labyrinth /Staff Meeting 12:00 AA/ Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 2:00 YSOP	28 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training 2:00 YSOP 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training 5:00 YSOP	29 St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 1:15 Islamic Prayer Service 7:00 YSOP 7:30 18th Street Singers Concert	30 7:00 YSOP 2:00 YSOP

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 The 5th Sunday After Pentecost 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 7:30 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 9:10 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Choir Rehearsal/Getting Ready 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist/Godly Play 12:15 Coffee Hour</p>	<p>2 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer 6:00 Urban Ministry Committee</p>	<p>3 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert 1:00 Street Church 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training</p>	<p>4 Independence Day Church and Parish Office Closed</p>	<p>5 12:00 Committee of 100 Board 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training</p>	<p>6 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 1:15 Islamic Prayer Service 5:00 Wedding Rehearsal</p>	<p>7 4:00 Wedding Susie Lewis & Jerry Kawinski</p>
<p>8 The 6th Sunday After Pentecost 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 7:30 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 9:10 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Choir Rehearsal/Envelope Please 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist/Godly Play 12:15 Coffee Hour</p>	<p>9 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer</p>	<p>10 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert 1:00 Street Church 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training</p>	<p>11 10:00 Labyrinth /Staff Meeting 12:00 AA/ Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 2:00 YSOP 2:00 Street Sense Vendors' Mtg 6:00 Street Sense Editorial Board</p>	<p>12 12:00 Committee of 100 Board 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training</p>	<p>13 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 1:15 Islamic Prayer Service</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 The 7th Sunday After Pentecost 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 7:30 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 9:10 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Choir Rehearsal /Getting Ready 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist 12:15 Coffee Hour</p>	<p>16 12:00 Committee of 100 Zoning Committee 12:00 AA 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer</p>	<p>17 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert 1:00 Street Church Liturgy 2:00 Street Sense Eucharist Vendor Training 6:00 Group Spiritual Direction</p>	<p>18 10:00 Labyrinth /Staff Meeting 12:00 AA/ Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist 2:00 Street Sense Vendors' Mtg</p>	<p>19 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training</p>	<p>20 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 1:15 Islamic Prayer Service</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 The 8th Sunday After Pentecost 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 7:30 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 9:10 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Choir Rehearsal /Getting Ready 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist 12:15 Coffee Hour 12:45 OPALS tour of The Portrait Gallery</p>	<p>23 12:00 AA 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer</p>	<p>24 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert 1:00 Street Church Liturgy 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training</p>	<p>25 Saint James the Apostle 10:00-3:00 Labyrinth 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 AA 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Holy Eucharist</p>	<p>26 12:00 SLAA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training</p>	<p>27 12:00 AA 12:10 Holy Eucharist 1:15 Islamic Prayer Service</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 The 9th Sunday After Pentecost 7:00 NA/AA 7:15 Welcome Table Bible Study 7:30 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 8:00 Holy Eucharist 8:45 The Welcome Table 9:10 Welcome Table Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Choir Rehearsal /Getting Ready 10:45 Liturgical Leaders Meeting 11:00 Holy Eucharist 12:15 Coffee Hour</p>	<p>30 12:00 AA 12:10 Contemplative Eucharist 12:30 Contemplative Prayer</p>	<p>31 12:00 Al-Anon 12:10 Tuesday Concert 1:00 Street Church Liturgy 2:00 Street Sense Vendor Training</p>				

A BIG Thank-You to Tish Ganier and Godly Play Takes a Holiday

We have just completed a great year of lessons, projects and growing! And now, Godly Play will be closed for the Summer, until September 9, the first Sunday after Labor Day.

Think about being part of our children's ministry. We are RECRUITING teachers for the Fall. Also, we are looking for a new Godly Play Coordinator. After two wonderful and faithful years, Tish Ganier is stepping down. Please contact Susan Walker at swalker@epiphanydc.org if you are interested in teaching. We will train you over the summer. And, you can visit www.godlyplay.org to learn more about the program.

As our Godly Play school year comes to an end, we'd like to recognize Epiphany's members who participated in our Christian formation program for children. We are grateful for all the young people and adults who made wondering about God and imaginatively responding to scripture and the experience of worship such a lively time of formation. THANK YOU ALL!!!

Epiphany's Godly Play children are:

Emma Bass	Noah Boddie	Will Brennom
Anika Burg	Max Burg	Afi Dobson
Sherwin Frank	Sophie Gibson	Phoebe Gibson
Emily Golden	Lucy Hensley	Savannah Jelks
Connor Jelks	Marina Stumpf	

Epiphany's adults who facilitated Godly Play are:

Hope Childs
Larry Ellis
Teresa Hobgood
Christopher Worthley
Tish Ganier, teacher and coordinator

Rector's Journal, Continued from page 1

work with. If that total is \$11,000,000, we will be able to proceed with the entire Renovation Plan. If the total is less, we will prioritize the items within the Renovation Plan and inform the architects of our adjusted scope. In other words, if we raise only \$2,000,000 total, from both internal and external efforts, then we will authorize work on the most needed improvements, which will probably be health and safety issues and some work in the worship space.

Yes, I am concerned about the cost. When we talk about millions of dollars, we all get a little nervous.

No, I am not concerned about the cost. Why? Because I know that there is tremendous support within the parish and throughout the Washington community for us to maintain and develop our historic, beautiful, and sacred structures. I also know that there is significant support for the ministries we do within our parish, with the poor and with the downtown community. So, I know that we are on the right track. The Renovation Ministry Team has been extremely diligent and faithful in its process. The architects have been creative and sensitive in their design. The Renovation Plan meets the needs of the people, the needs of our ministries, and the needs of aging buildings. We have an excellent product for which we can ask financial support. That's one reason that I am not concerned about the cost.

The other reason I am not concerned about the cost is that I know that we will do the best that we can and be satisfied with what we have done. We will turn to God again and again for strength and guidance. If we persevere in faith, engage the skills that God has given us, and realize the joy that comes with doing God's work, then whatever we do will be good enough. Yes, I am very excited!

Capital Campaign Feasibility Study Survey

For parishioners, there is an enclosed Survey Form, which the vestry hopes that you will complete and mail to the parish office, if you haven't already done so. It is important that we hear from everyone. We want as many comments as possible about the Renovation Plan and about the interest in a Capital Campaign in the fall.

For everyone receiving this newsletter, we have included basic information about the Renovation Plan. Stay tuned; there is more news to follow, more plans to share, more ministries to develop. We are entering a very exciting time at Epiphany.

July is Sabbath Month

We are taking a break in July; we are calling it Sabbath Month. Epiphany is a very busy place, and people get tired. During the month of July, we are trying to refrain from scheduling any parish meetings. Church will definitely continue, and so will the ministries of the parish. The buildings will be open as usual, but we don't want

to schedule any meetings. What a concept! And why? Having a meeting-free Sabbath Month will give us a much needed opportunity to rest and be refreshed, to recharge our batteries. It will give us a chance to be still and listen, to discern how God wants us to be active in ministry, how God wants us to be instruments of God's will, and how God wants to fill us with the peace of Christ. So, during the Sabbath Month of July, slow down and take care of yourselves, give yourselves a treat, prepare yourselves for a full schedule of activity at Epiphany in the fall.

Upcoming Events at Epiphany

September 9: Homecoming Sunday

September 20: Parish Fundraiser

September 21-23: Shrine Mont Weekend

September 30-November 4: Possible Capital Campaign

October 7: Creation Sunday, Blessing of the Animals (Bp. Gene Robinson, Preacher)

November 3: Diocesan Confirmation at the Cathedral

November 4: All Saints' Sunday

November 11: Annual Parish Meeting

Urban Missioner Log

By Anne-Marie Jeffery

Recently, I attended the Festival of Women of Color Preachers at the Cathedral College on the grounds of the National Cathedral. I was delighted to find out that the preachers who had come were not just Episcopal but Presbyterian, United Church of Christ, Baptist and more. It was amazing to be with Native American women, Asian women and African American women. There were no Hispanic women and no Hispanic faculty present, and I was saddened to learn that there is not one Hispanic woman who teaches preaching in the United States.

When we broke into small groups, I found that I had been assigned to one of the sought after faculty members who me in my Episcopalian world had never heard of. Her name was Dr. Katie Canon, a homiletics (preaching) professor at Union Theological Seminary in Richmond. We were also joined by Ella Mitchell, a renown Baptist preacher, who is now about 90, but still has plenty to say. I quickly found out why my fellow students revered these two.

In the small groups, we began by each preaching a sermon. I wondered in this group of Presbyterians and Baptists how my very Episcopalian preaching would be received. They received it very well and had excellent suggestions for me. After the sermons were

preached Dr. Cannon introduced us to the method of crafting a sermon that she teaches— The Meta Ethical problem. It is a focused way of defining the “problem” that the sermon will address. As Dr. Cannon says, if there were no problems then sermons wouldn't need to be preached. There is always somewhere we are messing up and it is always “we”. The preacher also has the problem otherwise the preacher could not preach about it.

The method also defines the “how” of the problem – the evidence which tells us that we have a problem and the “why” of the problem - why it exists. The next stage of the method focuses on the “why crisis”- the figuring out of what will happen to us and the world if this problem continues to go on. She says it is very important to name the “why crisis” because it is the “why crisis” that will inspire people to change.

She told a great story about why the “Why crisis” was so important and why it is important to define it for the congregation you are preaching for. She was at the doctor's office and the doctor asked her if she would be interested in taking hormones. The doctor said it would help with wrinkles. Dr. Cannon said, “I don't care about wrinkles. I have earned my wrinkles and I'll keep them.” The doctor then suggested that there were some studies that said that hormones would reduce heart attacks. Dr Cannon said, “Well I've got to die from something.” Finally the doctor said, “well there are some studies that that say hormones help prevent Alzheimer's” and Dr. Cannon said, “Well shoot me up.” I don't know how true the story was but it illustrates the “why crisis” that got her to accept the hormones. The “why crisis” in a situation is what prompts us to change.

I think I see some of the elements in the Meta Ethical problem in my sermons, but I found going through the process of defining the problem and then the how and the why sharpens the sermon. I hope to be able to use this method in my sermons. It is a very time consuming method especially when you are new to it, so for me having a sermon fully developed through this method may take some time. Listen out for any differences when I preach. This was a wonderful conference. I not only learned ways to improve my preaching, but met some wonderful women who are also out there trying to preach God's word to God's people. I hope Epiphany will be able to receive some of the fruits of this experience.

Arlington Cluster Group

Cook-out: We will be meeting for a backyard cookout at Caroline Klam's house, 4006 N. Upland Street in Arlington on Saturday, June 23 at 5pm. Come ready to enjoy the beautiful June weather, community and a great meal. Please call Caroline at 703 538-4549 (h) or 202 558-5133 (w) or Pat Pickering at 703 243-6183 if you can join us and/or for directions.

EPIPHANY'S ANNUAL FALL PARISH WEEKEND AT SHRINE MONT WILL BE SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2007.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS and plan to experience the renewal that comes from fresh mountain air, nourishing food, and the fellowship of community!

The Rev. Randolph Charles, Rector

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THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY