

The Beacon

September 2010

A monthly newsletter from
Epiphany Episcopal Church
Dulaney Valley, Maryland
410-252-4465

~A progressive and inclusive community of disciples committed to the ministry of Christ through our worship and actions~

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WALT AND LINDA HAVE ARRIVED SAFELY IN TAMPA FLORIDA

We want to thank everyone at Epiphany for the warm send off and let you know how very special Epiphany will always be for us. It was very hard to leave all of you and the warmth of this very special church family.

Take good care of each other and let us know when you are traveling to Tampa!

Blessings!

Linda & Walt

HELPING UP MISSION CASSEROLES

By Doris Rapp

Now that summer vacations are ending perhaps we will have more volunteers to help with the casseroles. I do thank our Rector, Kathryn and Kim McDonald for being in the kitchen early to start cooking. Andrea Mangels and myself helped to mix all the ingredients and fill the containers. Thank you for all your help and looking forward to seeing new faces in September.

THE BEACON IS GOING GREEN!

As of October, Epiphany will be putting the Beacon on the website and an Epipha-news link will be sent to all those who wish to receive the newsletter electronically. Please contact the church office (410-252-4465 or epiphany@qis.net), if you would like to still receive a hard copy of the Beacon in the mail.

EPIPHANY EPISCOPAL CHURCH PRESENT'S IT'S 2ND ANNUAL FLEA MARKET

Date: September 11, 2010

Raindate: September 18, 2010

Look around, check it out, there is always something that needs to be thrown out! Price, it, bring it, put it on your table or our lawn. Have some fun, there might be something you want.

Place: Epiphany Episcopal Church
2216 Pot Spring Road
Timonium, MD 21093

Time: 10 am to 3pm

Set up by: 9:30 am

Take down by: 3:30 pm

Bring your own lunch, table, blanket, chairs, and an umbrella if it is hot.

Baked goods and beverages will be available for a nominal fee.

Look for the flyer in the Narthax. Fill out the application for space and return to Doris or Marge Bryant at the church. For further info, call Marge Bryant at 410-667-4404 or the church, 410-252-4465

There is no fee required. Just be responsible for removing your waste.



Clergy Musings By Rev. Kristofer Lindh-Payne

Outreach is an integral part of life at Epiphany. Even in the summer time, when everything seems to slow down in many churches, we maintain our commitments to serving others and loving our neighbor as ourselves. In June, you may remember that our youth spent a week in Baltimore city's Remington neighborhood, living in a shelter, working on a house that caught fire, painting murals, as well as a variety of other projects. July was Epiphany's month to amass canned goods for the Assistance Center of Towson Churches (ACTC), and as usual generosity abounded. In August, we collected school supplies and uniforms for the Church of the Guardian Angel's Back to School Celebration. And every month, a loyal group of Epiphanyites continue our ministry to Helping Up Mission, as you prepare casseroles at home or gather to work in the church kitchen to make food for men who are in recovery and struggling to put their lives back together. You will also read in the Neighbor-to-Neighbor update in this month's Beacon about all of Epiphany's on-going efforts to create a program that addresses the growing problem of homelessness in our area.

As much as we do to help our sisters and brothers in need, I still find myself lying awake some nights worrying about all the people I come in contact with that are having serious financial difficulties.

According to data the Congressional Budget Office issued a couple weeks ago, we continue to see a growing divide between the wealthy and the poor. The report goes on to explain that gaps in after-tax income between the richest 1 percent of Americans and the middle and poorest fifths of the country more than tripled between 1979 and 2007. Unfortunately, it gets worse:

- Foreclosure: 2.8 million homes were foreclosed in 2009. Some experts predict that number to increase to 3-3.5 million in 2010.
- Unemployment: The official rate is 9.5% but the wider measure of under employed and those who have given up on their job search is more like 17%. That's more than 24 million Americans out of work.
- Record numbers using food stamps: One governmental office reports a record 40 million Americans, or 1 in 8 Americans, may not be able to eat without government assistance.

For many of us, these are so much more than statistics. These are people we know and love. These people might even be you or me. So what do we do about these complicated issues? Perhaps we are doing everything we can to help, but even so, I am still left with deep concern for my neighbor, my sisters and brothers, that are in need.

While I know that there have been recent headlines about governmental assistance and federal, state, and local efforts to reach those in need, and I have been following the rising number of billionaires (now more than 40) who have pledged to give away 50% of their wealth to charity, I can't help but wonder will it be enough. But what can I, one person, do?

This past week I had the privilege of meeting with Epiphany parishioner, Sheila Bentz, who lives up the road from the church at St. Elizabeth's Hall. (This meeting was arranged by our outreach dynamos, Janet and Richard Fawcett, as they were away on vacation and needed help picking up food donations from St. Elizabeth's.) When I pulled up to the curb, Sheila was waiting for me on the bench with a shopping cart full of canned goods that they had collected. When asked about her community's efforts, Sheila explained that she had been lying awake one night worrying and praying about all those who were going without food, when the image of a single solitary can of food came into her mind's eye. What can I, one person, do? The idea was crystal clear: I can invite everyone who is planning to attend the upcoming monthly concert at St. Elizabeth's to each bring a donation of food. One can of food quickly became a shopping cart full. Sheila took her concern before God, and was inspired to do something. When she reached out to others who live in her community, she found that people were more than willing to help.

In Luke's Gospel account, Jesus echoes the words of the prophet Isaiah and marks the beginning of his public ministry, when he says "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor..." (Luke 4:18). As you look out at the world around you and see firsthand the overwhelming need, how is this scripture being fulfilled in your hearing? How is God working in the world around you? How is God inspiring you to love and serve your neighbor that is in need?

NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR

By Kate McAllister

Epiphany has been responding to individuals and families living in our community with housing needs throughout our 50 year history. It seems to be in our DNA. The Episcopal Housing Corporation (EHC) was founded in 1995 thanks to the energy and passion of Epiphany members and funding support from the Jessie Ball duPont Fund. The partnership between Epiphany, EHC, and the Jessie Ball duPont Fund has been a significant force for neighborhood change. Now we are poised to make similar changes in the lives of our local neighborhood through Neighbor-to-Neighbor.

According to the Baltimore County Communities for the Homeless (BCCH), the need for shelter in Baltimore County has nearly tripled in the last decade. Emergency support programs like those offered through our partner the United Churches Assistance Network (UCAN) have seen drastic increases in numbers facing eviction, and more than 90% of their eviction prevention funds go into the Lakes Apartments, some of the most affordable housing in this community. Clearly the full force of the recession has taken its toll on our neighbors. HUD's Section 8 subsidies are a primary tool for homeless prevention in Baltimore County, but there is a 10-year waiting list for the Housing Choice Voucher Program. According to BCCH, it costs approximately \$37,000 to house a family of four in a County run shelter for a year, while it costs approximately \$13,000 to house a family of four in a two bedroom unit for a year. You do the math! Why not prevent homelessness, through a housing subsidy program that works to keep that family of four from having to enter a shelter? This is where Neighbor-to-Neighbor comes in.

Neighbor (N2N) is a partnership effort initiated by Epiphany among churches and organizations in Northern Baltimore County focused on reducing the incidence of homelessness in a defined corridor of Cockeysville and Timonium through housing subsidies and support services. The program was launched by Epiphany in June of 2009 in response to drastic increases in numbers of families facing eviction. After a planning year that included intensive community organizing and partnership development, we have laid the foundation for an organization that can effectively prevent homelessness through a combination of rental subsidies and support services.

Epiphany just got notification that we received a \$145,000 grant from the Jessie Ball duPont Fund to build on this first year of planning through a two-year pilot. Continuing this fall, the pilot will work with 25 families. The focus will be on goal setting and identifying and addressing each family's specific barriers to success: life skills attainment, financial literacy and budgeting, job search assistance, and access to education and training. In addition to case management and volunteer support, we provide each family with a monthly rental subsidy for one year.

Stabilizing families at risk of eviction and homelessness in this part of Baltimore County is particularly important because the area has many characteristics that could help families pull themselves out of intergenerational poverty. Employment opportunities, high quality schools, low crime rate, transportation alternatives, and a large tract of affordable rental housing, all combine to attract lower income families to this area. A recent analysis by the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity showed that this corridor is situated across "very high opportunity" census tracts. Other studies of programs that help lower income families find affordable homes in high opportunity areas have demonstrated improvements in mental and physical health, particularly among mothers and their children. These studies indicate improved educational outcomes and long term employment. With the help of the Neighbor-to-Neighbor rental subsidy and support program, families will be better positioned for nearby employment, and their children will have better educational opportunities. Neighbor-to-Neighbor has the potential to not only prevent the initial crisis of impending homelessness, but to also create long-term and sustainable change in the lives of program participants.

How you can participate:

- Attend one of the upcoming Neighbor-to-Neighbor meetings to learn about opportunities to serve as a support team member, working closely with the program participants and case manager to help them achieve sustainable positive outcomes...
- Attend a scheduled public forum entitled "A Plan to End Homelessness" in our central region of Baltimore County on Wednesday, September 22nd at Trinity Episcopal Church from 7 to 9pm...
- Contribute financially to the Neighbor-to-Neighbor efforts...
- Contact Kate McAllister or Rev. Kristofer Lindh-Payne for more information about how you can get involved 410-252-4465 or n2n@qis.net.

NETWORKING

By Epiphany Staff

You may have noticed our newest bulletin board “NETWORKING”. Well, here’s the deal. Have you ever needed the services of someone and had to go thumbing through the yellow pages, only to wonder whom to choose? Ever wonder where to turn when an unexpected hardship occurs? Wouldn’t church be a great place to go??

According to Dictionary.com, networking means “a supportive system of sharing information and services among individuals and groups having a common interest.” One thing (among so many) that I have learned in my internship with Neighbor-to-Neighbor is that connecting with others to collect ideas and form partnerships is not only critical for a strong organization, but also energizing in meeting and forming relationships with others who care. Another part of this experience has been the ability to collect useful information – which leads me to the networking board.

The hope is that you will post your business card or an index card (on the table) that tells us what your specialty or business is. Or, it can be a posting of useful information. (I posted one on a great outreach for furniture donation.) The idea is that as a community we can help to connect one another to the people or things we need. Think of it as the classified ads section. I KNOW that each of you have gifts and talents...and you know people in your circles outside of Epiphany...so let’s start networking!

By the way, does anybody know a decent auto mechanic?

CAN YOU BELIEVE SCHOOL IS STARTING SOON?

And so is Sunday School. Sunday, September 12, 10:00 am. there will be Sunday School registration and time for you to find out what your children will be doing. 3 year olds through fourth grade will meet in the big room and nursery in the 2’s

YOUTH MINISTRY

A planning team of adults committed to the formation of our youth at Epiphany gathered on August 22nd to discuss possibilities for the upcoming program year. Parents and youth, please be on the lookout for announcements about a retreat early this September to set our calendar, followed by a pool party at the Siperko’s. Contact Rev. Kristofer Lindh-Payne with any questions about youth ministry (410-252-4465 or revklp@qis.net).

WILDERNESS EMERGENT CONVERSATION

On August 15th, a gathering of Epiphanyites that were interested in the idea of offering an alternative worship service at Epiphany met for dreaming and discussion. This conversation will continue this fall, as we discern together what it is that the Holy Spirit is calling us into. In addition to this conversations that all are invited to attend, there is also an exciting national conference being offered at our Diocesan Center on the emergent church movement. If you are interested in attending, contact Rev. Kristofer Lindh-Payne (410-252-4465 or revklp@qis.net) or to learn more about the conference directly and register yourself: <http://episcopalvillage.org>

SAVE THE DATE

For the Epiphany Auction being held on November 6, 2010

There will be a dinner, silent and live auction items and lots of FUN!

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT EPIPHANY

Are you impatient? Do you grumble at long red lights, choose the shortest line in the grocery store - which inevitably turns out to be the slowest? Or more significantly, do you have a hope, a dream, a need for which you cry out to God - or murmur fervently, depending on your delivery style - a cry which isn't being answered?

Then Epiphany has an offering for you. **At nine a.m. between the two Sunday services beginning on September 19, we will be offering a six week course on Patience** - one of the nine gifts of the Spirit. (And yes there is a course for each of the other eight, should anyone want to pursue more of the gifts in depth.) Calvin Miller - an excellent Christian writer - has put together the course book. Each day there is a short scripture reading. By short I mean one or two verses. Then there is a one to two page, double spaced commentary, and two questions to set you thinking about your own life. On Sundays we gather to discuss other questions built around the same theme.

Miller writes, "Patience isn't something we develop; it is something God develops in us as He takes over...Patience is something that sustains us while we wait for God's will to be revealed. Patience reminds us that God's timing is not our timing. Patience is quiet confidence in God's promised provision."

That sounds so good to me - as if it could relieve a lot of tension! - and I hope that there are some of you who will join us!

Do you feel like you are standing at a crossroads and can't decide which way to go? A ten week course on **The Way of Discernment** will be offered as a daytime course and as a nighttime course if there is interest starting **Tuesday evening, 7-8:30 pm September 21 and Thursday morning, September 23 9:30 – 11am.** "In a world of increasing uncertainty, *The Way of Discernment* teaches participants in a small-group study how to discover God's guidance both individually and in community." This study is designed to be accessible to anyone with sincere interest in listening deeply to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS –

Sunday, September 12th during the announcements in the 10:00 service.

ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS AND THE EVENING PRAYER

Sunday, October 3, 6:30pm. Gather with others and celebrate the animal companions who share our lives.

COMMUNION CLASS

Saturday, September 25, 9:00-11:00am, children 5 and older are invited to watch a video about a family preparing for Easter and First Communion, work on some art, learn about the altar and make communion bread. This class is good for children already receiving communion and those who are still shy at the altar rail. It would be helpful if you could let Kathryn know if you are interested in having your child attend.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
IN SEPTEMBER**

Page Armando	Yolanda Landes & Family
Phyllis Babcock	Langkammerer & Family
Lisa Beckwith	Larry Kirchner & Family
Jim Biggs	Karen Leward
Tony Blades	Kathy Mays
Wendy Bowman	Lew Montgomery
William Canepa	Laurie Oleynick
David Carroll	Helen Pasternak
Tim Cherry	Rich Persinger
Gil Clapperton	Pierce Family
Christine Collin	Mike Radcliff
Tim Cork	Lee Raden
Anne Dann	David Raffetto
Heather Dobbs	James Raffetto
Robert Duffy	Mark Reid
Jeanette Eatherly	Susan Reidy
Nicholas Fuller	Kim Ritzmann
Pat Garvey	Debbie Rolf
Bill Graham	Christina Rubie
Robert Grauer	Stephanie Sabino
Betty Hammann	Brianna Schmidt
Lois Harker	Bill Soldan
Donald Henre	Kori Sparr
Lena Herald	Charlotte Spencer
Carol Higgins	Barbara Stevenson
Monica Humble	Lois Turner
William Ingle	Laura Wolf
Jessie Jacobs	John Zavitz
Carol Kelly	
Reggie Kiah	

BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

Lucas Basye	1
Samuel Thompson	1
Margaret Fries	3
Kristen Kinnear	3
Thomas Barczak	5
Joyce Richardson	5
Rebecca Vernarelli	6
Lauren Altman	10
Nadine Moore	12
William Bauer	16
Gabriela Trainor	16
William Hardisky	19
Tiffany Audin	21
William Spencer	22
Gwynn Chippendale	23
Kristofer Lindh-Payne	23
Sarah Rose Frohme	24
Caroline Vernarelli	26
Caroline Anne Dann	27
Brandon Russo	27
Christopher Overcash	28
Matt Waters	29
Bruce Bryant	30
James Gibbs	30
Lara Martin	30

ANNIVERSARIES IN SEPTEMBER

Carolyn & Donald Krach	12
Ann & Jeff Walsh	13
Dick & Pat Irvin	14
Lori & David Doyle	15
Jane & Ed Obaza	16
Kathryn & Michael Wajda	16
Pam & Pete Zavitz	17
Sue & Emil Elinsky	19
Denise & Laurence Thomsen	29

Calendar of on-going events for Epiphany

Sunday Service Schedule

Holy Eucharist

8:00am and 10:00am

Sunday School 9:45am

SEPTEMBER 2010

5

LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SUMMER CAMP

Sunday 9:45am

6

LABOR DAY - OFFICE CLOSED

Monday

8, 15, 22, 29

STAFF MEETING

Wednesday 11:00am

9, 23 30

PARISH CHOIR REHEARSALS

Thursdays 7:30pm

10

CASSEROLES DUE

Friday 9:00am

11

FLEA MARKET

Saturday 10:00am-3:00pm

11

WILLIAM HARDISKY

Eagle Scout - Court of Honor

Timonium Methodist Church

Saturday 4:00pm

12

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS

Sunday 9:45am

13

HOMEWORK CLUB DINNERS

Monday - 4:30pm

13

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday

14, 28

ARDEN COURT

Tuesdays 1:30pm

15

BEACON ARTICLES DUE

Wednesday

18

RAINDATE FOR FLEA MARKET

Saturday

19

BIBLE STUDY

Sunday 9:00am

20

KATHRYN RETURNS FROM VACATION

August 30th thru September 20th

20

VESTRY

7:00pm

28

LUNCH BUNCH

Tuesday - Noon

The Beacon

Epiphany Episcopal Church
2216 Pot Spring Road
Timonium, MD 21093

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PASTORAL STAFF

Rector: Reverend Dr. Kathryn Wajda
Associate Rector: Reverend Kristofer Lindh-Payne
Deacon: Reverend Dean Pugh
Vergers: Jon McAllister
Director of Music: Mary Hamlin Spencer
Parish Secretary: Doris Rapp
Financial Secretary: Liz Witty
Daycare Center Director: Elaine Kraus

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office: 410-252-4465
Hours M thru F - 9am-4pm
Fax: 410-252-4523
Email: epiphany@qis.net
Web: www.epiphanydulaneyvalley.com
Daycare Office: 410-252-4468