



# THE PARISH VISITOR

VOLUME 68, ISSUE 10

JUNE 2010

## CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

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## "Carrying the Vision Forward"

*It is a sacred privilege to share in maintaining our House of the Lord that was entrusted to us by previous generations.* Jess and Frank Lawatsch

*My hope for the Cathedral Church of the Nativity is another 150 years of active involvement in our community, carrying out our mission. That is the reason I've made my pledge to the capital campaign.* Martha Capwell Fox

*Nativity has been a part of my life since I was born. From playing softball at camp to watching my son get baptized, this church has always served as home base. Our home base currently needs some shoring up and we must take responsibility for keeping our church as home base for future generations. Just as our founders had a vision of this grand space for us, I'm happy to participate in Carrying the Vision Forward.* Kim Plyler

*I believe in what God is doing with us and through us. I believe in what happens because of these sacred spaces we seek to repair and improve. I believe in the prayers that we say, the sacraments that we celebrate, the ritualized offerings of our lives in corporate prayer. I believe in the children who learn in our classrooms, the adults who find strength and fellowship in our meeting spaces, in the people from our community who find shelter, food, and solace in our sacred spaces. I believe God makes use of our physical buildings, our very lives, and to this I rightly and boldly give my time, my talent, and in this case my treasure.* Dean Pompa

### How can you participate in Carrying the Vision Forward?

Say yes to making time to visit with a campaign visitor. No matter what you may feel you are able to contribute financially, your participation and understanding of our common mission is so very important, and we want your input.

### How are visits arranged?

Visits are arranged in a number of ways:

1. You may be contacted directly by phone to schedule a visit in your home or an agreed upon location.
2. You may sign up for scheduled times being offered at the Cathedral on Sundays June 13 and 20.
3. You may fill out an "appointment sheet" indicating you would like a visit, what days of the week you are available and where you would like to meet. You will then be contacted by a visitor. (Appointment sheets will be available at the rear of the Cathedral).
4. You may call the office and indicate your preference for a visit.

### What is the timeline for the campaign visits?

1. Visits are on-going and are conducted by group of fellow parishioners who have agreed to serve as visitors.
2. Visits began in April and we hope to wrap up the visits by the end of July. If you have not yet been contacted for a visit or signed up for a visit, please know the opportunity exists during this time frame. We look forward to sharing with everyone this opportunity to learn more about our common life and our common call to discipleship.

## *From the Dean's Desk...*

I want to tell you about a marriage that is breaking up! Do I have your attention? The marriage that is breaking up is the marriage between the church and our culture. Canon Gary Nicolosi, former Canon here at the Cathedral and most recently the congregational development officer in the diocese of British Columbia in Victoria, writes that the marriage between church and culture began to unravel in the 1960s and has resulted in a downward spiral in membership that has yet to bottom out.

An example of the hey-days of the marriage of church and culture was experienced in the years 1946 through 1960 when the church enjoyed unprecedented growth and participation. The exception in the culture in those years were those who were not part of some type of religious community. There was an accepted marriage of cultural and church values and norms and expectations of citizenry. Clearly as we move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century this marriage has unraveled.

Canon Nicolosi writes, "The force behind these changes was "secularization". By secularization I mean "the growing tendency of {humankind} to do without religion or to try to do without it" (Owen Chadwick). In a secularized world faith is private rather than public; belief is plural rather than monolithic; religion is marginal rather than central; and values are relative rather than absolute. No wonder, in our secularized environment, doubts about the value and validity of organized religion are now increasingly common. Especially among Baby Boomers (born 1946-1964) and Generation X (born 1965-1981), the exodus from the mainline church has been massive.

The unraveling of this marriage now leaves us, the church, with questions to discern as to how we are to be, how we are to sing a new song in a land whose normative values and expectations have shifted. The key, Canon Nicolosi suggests, is to move away from the model that once served us well, what he and others call the maintenance model and come to an understanding of a missional model.

I ask you to ponder what he writes, "In the missionary model: the mission field is right outside our church doors; church members are God's missionaries in the world, sharing the good news with their non-Christian friends and neighbors; the priest is not a chaplain to members but an equipper of ministry; the wardens and parish council are not trustees of a club but leaders in mission; the church itself is not simply a congregation that looks inward but a mission post that looks outward.

In the missionary model the emphasis is on building relationships rather than joining a religion; on being followers of Jesus rather than being loyal to the church; on mutual ministry rather than hierarchy; on the church as a community of miraculous expectation rather than a fossilized institution.

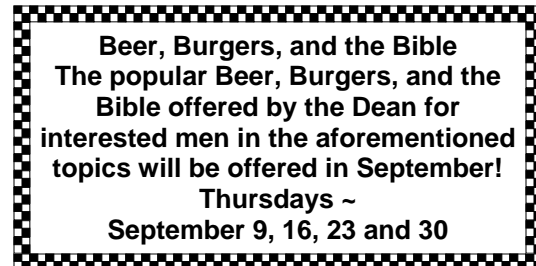
In the missionary model we accept people as they are and not as we want them to be; we seek to find Christ in

people before we attempt to bring Christ to people; we practice a gospel of God's inclusive love for every human being without exception.

In the missionary model the focus shifts from providing worship and music and programming and pastoral priorities that are designed first and foremost to satisfy those of us who are already in the church. The focus shifts toward those outside whom we seek to draw inside. It shifts from the attitude that we are who we are now and forever, world without end. It shifts from the attitude that says, "If those outside the church want to change and become like us, fine; otherwise they can go elsewhere because this is who we are and this is what we have to offer. Take it or leave it."

Here lies the heart of the matter: the key question to clergy and laity alike.

Does the Christian faith inspire us to become open and generous enough that we can think first not of satisfying ourselves and meeting our own needs but reaching out to populations we have not been reaching – to the un-churched, secular, but spiritually hungry seekers; to people of other races and cultures; to different classes and younger generations – in ways that will speak to them and meet their needs?



Spring is here  
hibernating trees rambunctiously alive again  
with leaves ready to burst forth  
into a world  
not seen before by them  
though fore long life issues forth  
from branches embarrassingly bear,  
necessary for the frigid time of year  
but now no more,  
as tender green beings  
unashamedly show their new life  
for all to see  
and the sights seen previously  
soon lie hidden by canopies of numerous newborn leaves  
in a wondrous outpouring of green foliage  
celebrate life's winning  
over the bleakness before.

Soon the magnificence of blooms  
of every kind and shape  
draws our eyes  
and scents fill the air  
each speaking in praise  
of greater things to come.

Canon Joel Atkinson  
May 3, 2010, Version II

**VIEWS  
FROM  
YOUR  
CANON  
MISSIONER**



### Daughters of the King Prayers

Do you have prayer needs? Something that doesn't fit the Prayers of the People format? Perhaps something personal or family related? The Daughters of the King will pray your prayer request faithfully, confidentially for one week. The request forms will be found in the pews and on the side aisle of the church. You may place your request in the collection plate or on a bulletin board for that purpose in the side aisle. All prayer requests will be burned at the end of each week.

### Attention: USHERS and GREETERS

Are you currently an usher or a greeter at our Sunday services? Are you interested in this ministry? Would you like to help our parish have a welcoming atmosphere for visitors?

Please join the Welcoming Ministry Team for a breakfast training session on Sunday, June 20 at 9 AM in the Dining Room of Sayre Hall. Contact Cathy Bailey at 610-261-1106 or cbnnp@rcn.com with any questions.



### Opportunities for Christian Educators

June 6-8, 2010 *Youth Ministry That Inspires*  
Virginia Theological Seminary, Alexandria, VA  
[www.vts.edu/icff/registration](http://www.vts.edu/icff/registration)

June 13-16 *EFM Mentor Training*  
June 13-16 *Children and Youth Faith Formation*

June 15-18 *Godly Play Training*,

June 15-18 *J2A Mentor Training*

June 15-18 *Adult Faith Formation*

Kanuga Conference Center, Hendersonville  
North Carolina 28739

[www.kanuga.org/conferences/](http://www.kanuga.org/conferences/)

September 23-25, 2010, *Godly Play Training*

Trinity Episcopal Church, Princeton, NJ 08540

### Episcopal Peace Fellowship



With approval from the Vestry, the Property Committee has undertaken improvements to landscaping in the area between Sayre Hall, the upper parking lot, and the Deanery. Several trees and shrubs in this area had outgrown their location, creating a cluttered view of Sayre Hall and making it difficult for visitors and newcomers to locate the Parish Office. These trees littered the walks with fruit which had to be cleaned regularly from late summer into the winter.

The landscape plan for this area required several shrubs and four of the nine existing trees to be removed. The remaining trees have been pruned. The area near the Parish Office entrance will be replanted with shrubs. The plan calls for replacement of one tree near the parking lot.

If you want to learn more about the landscaping plan, please contact any member of the Property Committee.



### Upcoming Diocesan Youth Events Register online at [diobeth.org](http://diobeth.org)

June 12-Diocesan Seminar for Families, Individuals, and Youth 10-18. Speaker Nathan Dungan is the founder and President of Share Save Spend and author of Prodigal Sons and Material Girls: How not to be Your Child's ATM

July 10 Bishop's Day with Kids – Grades 1-5  
"The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss"  
Church of the Good Shepherd in Scranton  
(Carpool from Nativity, call the office.)

August 5-8 Diocesan Junior High Mission Trip  
Bethlehem, PA Grades 6-8

### The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss 2010 Bishop's Day for Kids Diocese of Bethlehem

**Who:** Children who have completed grades 1-5.  
Parents are welcome!

**When:** July 10, 2010

**Time:** 9:30 a.m. — 2:30 p.m.

**Where:** Church of the Good Shepherd  
1780 N. Washington Ave.  
Scranton, PA 18509

**Cost:** \$5 per person, family discounts available

**Other:** Register online at [www.diobeth.org](http://www.diobeth.org). For more information contact Canon Anne Kitch at [akitch@diobeth.org](mailto:akitch@diobeth.org) or 610-865-0727 x237.





Come one, come all to the second annual  
**Iron Pigs Cathedral Night!**  
 Friday, July 30, 7 PM (buffet begins at 6 PM)  
 Join your church family at the Coca-Cola Park's PPL Picnic Patio for a great night of baseball, a two hour buffet, and a fireworks show. Ticket cost is \$12.50 per person, children under 2 are free. Pay an additional \$5 to enter a raffle to throw in the first pitch! To reserve your spot no later than July 5, contact Jeremy Joiner (610) 559-9735 or AvalonJJ@ptd.net

**JUNIOR HIGH MISSION TRIP  
 AUGUST 5-8, 2010**

**Faith, Fellowship, and Fun – We are all in the same boat!**



Staying at Lehigh University. Working at Trinity Soup Kitchen, New Bethany Ministries, and The Animal Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley. Relaxing at Dorney Park. Worshipping at Cathedral Church of the Nativity. Registration opens June 3 at <http://www.diobeth.org>

**SSM THRIFT SHOP**

The Southside Ministries Better Buy Thrift Shop begins summer hours as of June 1. During June, July, and August, the shop is open:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10 AM to 1 PM  
 Fridays from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

The shop is full of wonderful summer clothing for children, women, and men. Stop in to browse or to shop.

To volunteer to help in the shop, contact SSM Coordinator Barbara Taylor at 610-865-9405. It's fun and it's a great way to answer Jesus' call to clothe our neighbors in need!



PARISH REGISTER



**BAPTISMS**

Emily Marcella Bumber May 23, 2010  
 daughter of William and Sara Bumber

**CONFIRMATIONS May 23, 2010**

Jason R. Waterloo  
 Stephen Senior (St. Joseph's, Pen Argyl)  
 Dawn Spak (St. Joseph's, Pen Argyl)  
 Mark Wooland (St. Mary's, Wind Gap)

**RECEIVED May 23, 2010**

Monica Bliler  
 Nowena Grody (St. Joseph's, Pen Argyl)

**TRANSFERS**

Iris Quartey from St. Barnabas Episcopal  
 Monmouth Junction, NJ

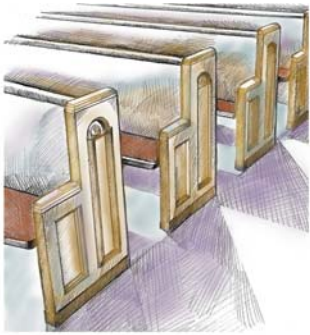
**JUNE LECTIONARY**

JUNE 6  
 1 Kings 17:8-16  
 Psalm 146  
 Galatians 1:11-24  
 Luke 7:11-17

JUNE 13  
 1 Kings 21:1-10, 15-21a  
 Psalm 5:1-8  
 Galatians 2:15-21  
 Luke 7:36—8:3

JUNE 20  
 Isaiah 65:1-9  
 Psalm 22:18-27  
 Galatians 3:23-39  
 Luke 8:26-39

JUNE 27  
 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21  
 Psalm 16  
 Galatians 5:1, 13-25  
 Luke 9:51-62



**A View from the Pew**

After living in our neighborhood for eleven years, the couple across the street sold their home and moved a few miles away. Our relationship was never more familiar than exchanges of pleasantries from across the street; "Hi, nice weather we're having," "I can't believe it snowed again," "Next year I get a snow blower." We

never developed any friendship and that seemed OK for all of us. When you move into a quiet neighborhood with four young boys age 3 to 13, everyone now no longer lives in a quiet neighborhood. While the couple was younger than my wife and me, they have no children and I suspect they preferred that children be neither seen nor heard. Our sons fit neither criteria.

The new neighbors are closer to our age, a second marriage without children, but the husband has children from his first marriage. They moved from only 30 minutes away so they are closer to work, but not too far from Dad's children. Within the first week of living on this block, Jim and Diane had made it a point to introduce themselves to everyone around and extend themselves in a way you would have thought they were the welcoming committee, not the other way around. Everyone in my family had met Jim and Diane before I had. One evening when I arrived home from work, as I got out of my car Jim came across the street to introduce himself and let me know that he'd already met Karyn and Cameron and Christian...Heck, Jim has a better handle on everyone's names than I often do and they're my family!

Jim shared the type of personal details that break the ice and help us to get to know a little of each other quickly. I responded in kind, always eager to make a new acquaintance. While this brief conversation took place, my son Cameron joined us and stood listening. Cameron takes great pleasure in being with adults and listening. At 14, he stills finds something special about "adult" conversation, even when it is just garden variety.

Well, it turns out that Cameron had had a conversation or two with Jim and Diane that first week and he shared some information about our family. That was clear when Jim asked me about our church; where is it, what denomination, tell me about what type of service, what are some of the activities, groups, etc. I certainly love Nativity, so I never have any trouble telling someone about our wonderful congregation and the community that I am so blessed to be a part of. Jim and Diane have been church shopping a little and I heard about their experience at a Baptist church and a Lutheran church. It was a lovely conversation that ended with hope of new-found friendship. As Jim walked back across the street and I walked up my driveway to head inside, Cameron said; "Why didn't you ask Jim to come to church with us this Sunday"? I said I would do just that when I thought the timing was right. Cameron's response was that by not asking Jim after we'd been talking about Nativity might make him feel I didn't want him to come. Check and mate. Of course, my son was right on both counts, I had missed an opportunity to invite a couple to join us to worship in the church I love, and I really had no good reason why. Not exactly the message I want to send to my son, but I am grateful he was wise enough to point out what I should have done in calling others to hear God's word.

Now, I really do need to go ask Jim and Diane directly to come with us to church. I think I'll take Cameron along for the conversation.

*Raymond Arcario*

**Treasurer's Report as of April 30, 2010**

<u>Income Summary</u>		<u>Disbursement Summary</u>	
<b>Budgeted Pledge Income for Year</b>	<b>\$ 555,000</b>		
<b>Pledges Paid To Date *</b>	<b>\$ 203,203</b>	<b>37% General</b>	<b>\$ 227,687</b>
<b>Parishioner Non-Pledge Income</b>	<b>\$ 16,912</b>	<b>Worship</b>	<b>\$ 20,455</b>
<b>Open Offerings, Space Use, Other</b>	<b>\$ 3,911</b>	<b>Renewal</b>	<b>\$ 31,301</b>
<b>Investment Interest Income</b>	<b>\$ 13,428</b>	<b>Evangelism</b>	<b>\$ 10,398</b>
<b>Hurd Trust Distributions</b>	<b>\$ 60,923</b>		
<b>Investment Principal Withdrawal</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		
<b>Designated Funds - Ch Frm Leader</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		
<b>Total Income Received to Date</b>	<b>\$ 298,377</b>	<b>34% Total Expenses to Date</b>	<b>\$ 289,841 33%</b>
<b>Total Income Budget for Year</b>	<b>\$ 873,837</b>	<b>Total Expense Budget for Year</b>	<b>\$ 873,837</b>

\*Includes \$58,254 in prepaid pledges from 2009.

# Church Picnic



**Sunday, June 6 ~ 10 AM**

**Moravian Academy Upper Campus  
4313 Green Pond Road**

**Worship followed by food, fun & festivities.**

**(Worship also offered at the Cathedral)**

## Worship Schedule Change begins June 6

**Saturday 5 PM — Holy Eucharist**

**Sunday 8 AM — Holy Eucharist**

**Sunday 10 AM — Holy Eucharist**

**Wednesday 9 AM — Holy Eucharist & Healing**

**(No Church School and Forum)**

**Sunday, June 13 @ 10 AM service**

**Daughters of the King Initiation**

**Recognition of Graduating Seniors**

**Norwine Scholarship Award**



The Parish Visitor (USPS 421-400) is published monthly except during August by the Cathedral Church of the Nativity, 321 Wyandotte Street, Bethlehem, PA 18015. 610-865-0727. Periodical Rate Postage paid at Bethlehem, PA. **Postmaster:** Send address changes to the "Parish Visitor" at the above address.

*TO KNOW CHRIST, TO MAKE HIM KNOWN, AND  
TO SERVE ALL PEOPLE ACCORDING TO HIS EXAMPLE*

**321 WYANDOTTE ST  
BETHLEHEM, PA 18015**

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