



The Lindisfarne

Lin.dis.farne: An island off the northeast coast of England, for centuries considered holy.

The Newsletter of The Church of the Holy Spirit (Episcopal). Serving Vashon Island, Washington since 1912.

Godly Play: A Message From Our Sunday School Teacher

Considering all the support that I am getting for Godly Play, I think it would be good for "the cause" to communicate the "what's going on" in Sunday School, as we develop the program.

Preface:

When I attended my first Diocesan Convention and took part in discussion sessions on how we, as a Dioceses, should deal with world and local issues, my answers were always the same. I am not sure what we can do in our lifetime except love our neighbor and prayer, but I think the long term key is to educate our kids on the issues. In one of our sessions on what our role and our country's role should be on the Middle East, I posed the same solution. It was unanimously adopted by our group. Educate the next generation on the issues.

As I took on Godly Play, I took it on no differently than when I have taught or coached in the past: "If you want to change the world,change our kids".

Lesson #1: What is Godly Play?

Godly Play is an imaginative approach to working with children; an approach that supports, challenges, nourishes and guides their spiritual quest. It is more aimed at personal spiritual direction and exploration than what we have traditionally thought of as religious education, which we told the kids what to think and what was the truth. Godly Play assumes that children have some experience of the mystery of the presence of God in their lives, but they lack the language, permission and understanding to express and enjoy that in our traditional culture and approach. In Godly Play we enter into parables, silence, sacred stories and liturgy in order to discover God, ourselves, one another and the world around us. If I had to tell you my favorite phrase in Godly Play it would be, "Have you ever wondered about....."

Of course the answer is "Yes". And if it's just wondering.....there are no wrong answers.

This Sunday we continued to wonder about what resources we have to work with. Each of the students wondered about and created stories with felt pictures we found in the nursery.

- Sean: Created a great story that some would relate somewhere between a war, a video game or the story of the Good Samaritan, I am still not sure.....but in an unfortunate ending to the story, the man on the road died. His story concluded with sincere and heart felt thoughts of what heaven is like. We concluded that no matter what happens, once you arrive in heaven.....you will find love.
- Amelia: Only had one prop. A felt rainbow. We discussed God's promises and how our trust in those promises are something we can count on. I, personally, was reminded about how sometimes the most simple examples of God and his promises.....and his children..... are the most touching.

Continued on page 2

How to get in touch with us

Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs 7:30-11:30 Wed 12:30-3:30
Tel: (206) 567-4488.

You may leave a message at any time. Messages from the differ ent boxes are recovered throughout the week.
Deacon Sally Carlson's email: deacon@holyspiritvashon.org
office e-mail: office@holyspiritvashon.org; Website: <http://www.holyspiritvashon.org> Fax: (206)338-2369

Pastoral Care Team

The Pastoral Care Team began at Church of the Holy Spirit in 2002 with training by and the guidance of Trudy James, of Multi faith Works in Seattle, who has provided pastoral care for many years. We receive on-going training through reading, discussion, workshops, classes and retreats. We work closely with our Deacon, Sally Carlson.

ALL PASTORAL CARE CONTACTS ARE STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Our mission is to serve the people of our church and community through home and hospital visits, prayers, cards, e-mails, telephone calls, and in other practical ways. Each member of the team is licensed by the Diocese as a Eucharistic Visitor who can bring the Eucharist to you and celebrate it with you.

While each member is "on call" during two week rotations throughout the year, you may contact any member of the Pastoral Care Team at any time.

Our current members are:

Betty Hawkins, 463-5062; Megan, 463-3657;
Hunter Davis, 567-4530; ; Wally Fletcher, 567-0068
Susie Kirschner, 567-4086;
Peggy Queary, 463-1977; Bob Weir, 463-3234;
Barbara Smith, 463-2249

ON CALL:

Barbara Smith, Nov 1-Nov 14, 463-2249
Susie Kirschner, Nov 15 - Nov 28, 567-4086
Betty Hawkins, Nov 29 - Dec 12, 463-5062



Thanksgiving Eve Service

Thanksgiving will be celebrated with an evening Eucharist on November 25th at 7:30 pm.

The other churches of the Island have been notified, and it is hoped we will have other clergy participating, as well as a combined choir.

All who have come in the past agree that this is a very moving time of coming together to raise our voices in thanks to God.

Religious Exploration Schedule Fall, 2009

November Kit and John Bean

08 LtQ A Passion for Christ: Paul

Kit and John Bean

15 LtQ Out Into the World: Challenges Facing Progressive Christians Kit and John Bean

22 Environmental Issues Are Social Justice Issues

Julia Lakey and Jim McRae

Godly Play

Continued from page 1

One of the great aspects of Godly Play is that it is continuous. Each kid has a "cubby" place that is safe and they can store their work. Next week we can't wait for Isabelle's story, which according to her props that had to be laid out on the floormost likely will be memorable!!!!!!

There is no doubt that Godly Play is changing the lives of a few students and one Story Teller.

Start small, think big, and change the world through our kids! We are off to a great start!!!!!!!!!!

Thanks for your support!

-Mark Yelken

Report from Diocesan Convention

The annual convention of the Diocese of Olympia was held in Vancouver, Washington on October 16/17. The Church of the Holy Spirit was represented by the Rev. Kimbrough Besheer, Doug Clarke, Dick Clow, Nancy Peregrine and Mark Yelkin. It was the most amicable and contention-free convention any of us could remember. The only hint of discord was when one parish tried to amend a resolution supporting the development of a relationship between the Diocese and the First Nations peoples of Western Washington. This parish wished to expand the resolution to include a call for cleaning up the Columbia River to improve the salmon migration. A majority of the delegates thought that amending the original resolution was not the right place for this initiative.

The budget for 2010 was passed without comment, as were resolutions to keep the assessment rate for 2011 at 18% of Net Disposable Income, and to have no cost of living adjustment to the 2010 Clergy Salary rate.

In his address to the Convention Bishop Rickel noted that the Diocese had trimmed \$350,000 from the budget, resulting in several positions being eliminated. One new position created was that of an Internet Strategist to be a resource for all parishes and missions. They would soon have a website, even if the Diocese had to create one for them. He also announced that his goal was to have shorter conventions that would only require one over-night stay for delegates. This would apply to the next year's convention, to be held at the Hilton in SeaTac on October 29/30 2010 which will start mid-afternoon on Friday and end late afternoon on Saturday. While not mentioning her by name, the Bishop paid tribute to Kate Wesch, noting that Epiphany, Seattle ended last spring with an average of 6 children in Sunday School but now had over 100 registered with an average attendance of over 50.

The Diocese's delegates to the recent National Convention reported on that event. There was also the usual inspirational key-note speaker. This year it was Nathan Dungan, who taught us how to "Share, Save, and Spend" our money. During the Convention, the Diocese reached its goal of providing one Malaria net for children in Africa from each person in the Diocese.

The Convention ended with a Eucharist during which 5 new Deacons were ordained. The Sermon was preached by our Suffragan Bishop Nedi Rivera, who is retiring. Again, this year's Convention was an opportunity to see old friends—like Kate Wesch and John Thompson—and meet new ones.

-Doug Clarke

Come to Game Night

The first Game Night for CHS was a hit. These recession-proof evenings have been scheduled on each second Saturday of the month, at least through the winter.

Come with your favorite game or puzzle to share, or see what someone else brought and join in.

Bring a friend, and take time to enjoy each other's company in this friendly setting. The next date is November 14th from 7-10 pm.

Lessons for the Month of November

November 1, All Saints: Psalm 24; Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9; Revelation 21:1-6a; John 11:32-44

November 8: Psalm 127; Ruth 3:1-5 + 13-17; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

November 15: Psalm 16 *or* I Samuel 2:1-10; I Samuel 1:4-10; Hebrews 10:11-25; Mark 13:1-8

November 22: Psalm 132:1-18; II Samuel 23:1-7; Revelation 1:4-6b; John 18:33-37

November 25, Thanksgiving Eve: Psalm 126; Joel 2:21-27; I Timothy 2:1-7; Matthew 6:25-33

November 29, Advent I: Psalm 25:1-10; Jeremiah 33:4-16; I Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36

We Are Blessed; We Give Thanks

A beautiful wooden box has been crafted by Bruce Hegenauer to replace a worn-out Visiting Eucharist Kit. One of the strong ministries at Church of the Holy Spirit is the traveling Communion. All of our Pastoral Care Team members are licensed to carry the Eucharist, and our two kits have many miles on their trip meters! One of the boxes was on its last legs, having been patched several times over the years. The tiny interior parts of the kit were still just fine, but one cannot purchase just a box; an entire (expensive) kit, including the silver chalice and paten, must be bought. Bruce graciously agreed to make a box to fit, and it is more than utilitarian, it is a joy to behold. Thank you, Bruce, for sharing your gift and light.

In response to our call for towels and socks for distribution via the upstairs restroom, we now have a good cache under the office desk. The cold, wet weather brings high traffic to this facility. Your gifts make us able to reach out in this simple, yet so very important, way to those in need. (Items for the Care Kits are also collected in the office, and passed on to the Unitarians, who make up the kits, spreading them across the Island. We are one of the distribution points for Care Kits, as well. Thank you for remembering.) We don't usually see the people who use the restroom, but sometimes we are blessed to meet them or hear from them. More than once, we have had messages in our guest book specifically thanking us for socks. And one day in late October, the secretary met Barbara, a homeless woman who was very grateful for a safe, dry place to sleep. The lock on the rest room door meant that she felt secure in a world that is often just the opposite for her. Her gratitude was overwhelming; we had provided a sanctuary as she passed through our little corner of her life.

A large box of office supplies arrived as the result of a member cleaning out their desk. This is always a blessing! Thank you so much for thinking of the church before you make a trip to Granny's Attic or the dump. If you are unsure whether items can be used, call the office to check.

We were given a large donation of Beanie Babies, some of which stayed at the church, but the rest traveled to Seattle to brighten up the lives of the women at The Church of Mary Magdalene/Mary's Place. We have also been able to send along makeup, hygiene supplies, socks, backpacks, handbags, and other items to this church and day center for women and children. You can see their thank you card on the narthex bulletin board. To be able to share is a blessing indeed.

We Need Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers, and Lectors Ushers Would be Great, Too!

Think about volunteering to serve the altar, read scripture, or make people welcome and comfortable for our Sunday worship. Things are a little threadbare in the scheduling of all the above ministries, but especially for acolytes.

Speak with Deacon Sally Carlson for all but Usher volunteering. Connie Frederick is in charge of the Ushers.

My Dear Good People of Church of the Holy Spirit,

Thank you so much for the Expanded Coffee Hour on October 11th, welcoming me as your Interim. Special thanks for the cake—and to those of you from 7:45 who came back to join the party! It has been a great pleasure getting to know you and your many ministries of service and devotion.

See you soon,
With Blessings,
Kimbrough



THE LABYRINTH SOCIETY 11TH ANNUAL GATHERING

"Creating Space for Spirit" was the theme for the annual Gathering of the Labyrinth Society, held at McMenam's Edgefield in Troutdale, Oregon, with over 150 people attending from all parts of the States, Canada, and presenters from England, Scotland, and Costa Rica. Ronald Esquivel, from Costa Rica, discussed Geometries and Energies. He showed us a revolutionary project, the Tamarindo Labyrinth, with a two mile long path in a spiritual theme park on the west coast of Costa Rica—worth a visit on your next trip to Costa Rica. The Gathering included 16 workshops on such topics as Garden Labyrinths, Transcending Grief, Sound Healing on the Labyrinth, and Labyrinth as Healing Womb—Embodying Hope. The opening and closing ceremonies were conducted on a double spiral labyrinth built on a meadow—it was quite magical with 150 people walking together.

For more information visit www.labyrinthnetworknorthwest.org or www.labyrinthsociety.org

-Betty Hawkins

What in the World is a "Manipulative" and What Are They Doing in Our Sunday School?!

Church of the Holy Spirit began using the Godly Play format for Church School this year. It is an approach that uses the children's imaginations and play to access and share what they already know about God, and to help them grow in their spirituality.

"Manipulatives" is the word given to the pictures, figurines, Bible and liturgical scenes, and other symbols made especially for students to handle, move about and use to tell stories. Everything needed for classroom use is, of course, available for purchase. But it is also possible to use found objects and have parishioners make the items, which is what we have been doing at CHS. Many of the needed pieces have been located in people's homes, at garage sales, or thrift stores. Some are being made by hand by our parish artists and craftspeople. Some congregants have stepped forward to purchase fabric needed for the various dioramas, and a Christ Candle, a central focus and symbol, was anonymously donated.

Betty Hawkins has kindly agreed to assemble a new list of needs to keep our minds focused on what our Church School is looking for. Her first list of items has been almost completely covered. Thanks to everyone who is watching; this is a sort of prayer for our Sunday school and our children, this watching.

One of the items still left on the first list is a wooden risen Christ figure; another is the 10 Commandments, written on "tablets" (paper, mounted on wood, and made to look like stone).

There are catalogues in the church office to help you get an idea of what the manipulatives look like. But it is the personal touch in all that we have collected so far that makes this truly a parish project.

NOVEMBER 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 All Saints 7:45 am HE 9 am RE 10 am CS 10:15 am HE 11:35 Choir 7 pm AA	2 7:30 pm AA	3 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 11-noon Silence & Sharing 6:45 Alanon	4 12:30 pm HE 2 pm Staff meets 5:30 WND	5	6 7:30 pm AA	7
8 7:45 am HE 9 am RE 10 am CS 10:15 am HE 11:35 Choir 7 pm AA	9 7:30 pm AA	10 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 11-noon Silence & Sharing 6:45 Alanon	11 12:30 pm HE 5:30 WND 7:30 pm Vestry meets	12	13 7:30 pm AA	14 9 am Worship Committee meets 7-10 pm Game Night
15 7:45 am HE 9 am RE 10 am CS 10:15 am HE 11:35 Choir 7 pm AA	16 7:30 pm AA	17 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 11-noon Silence & Sharing 6:45 Alanon	18 12:30 pm HE 5:30 WND	19	20 7:30 pm AA	21
22 7:45 am HE 9 am RE 10 am CS 10:15 am HE 11:35 Choir 7 pm AA	23 7:30 pm AA	24 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 11-noon Silence & Sharing 6:45 Alanon	25 12:30 pm HE 5:30 WND 7:30 pm Thanks- giving service	26 Thanksgiving Day 	27 7:30 pm AA	28
29 7:45 am HE 9 am RE 10 am CS 10:15 am HE 11:35 Choir 7 pm AA	30 7:30 pm AA					

LEGEND: AA = Alcoholics Anonymous HE=Holy Eucharist MP = Morning Prayer CS=Church School
 EP= Evening Prayer RE=Religious Exploration WND= Wednesday Night Dinner
 VCCC = Vashon Community Care Center WND = Wednesday Night Dinner

The Church of the Holy Spirit
 P.O. Box 508
 Vashon, WA 98070

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
 U. S. Postage
 PAID
 Vashon, WA 98070
 Permit No. 32