

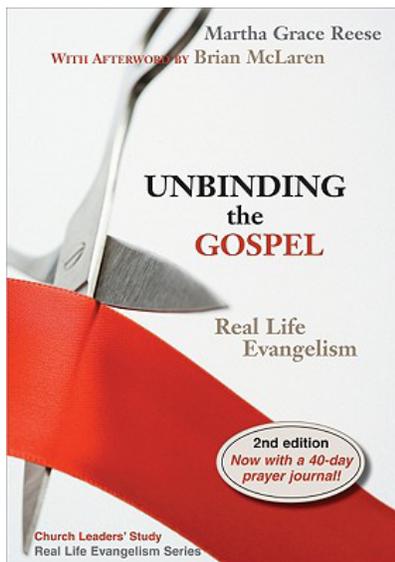
the Joyful Noise

Of St. James' Episcopal Church

Unbinding the Gospel

By Evelyn Manzella

Last November at the Diocesan Convention, the process called Unbinding the Gospel was introduced to the Diocese. It was written about in the Diocesan newsletter and it was the focus of the Winter Convocation, with the author and researcher, Martha Grace Reese, as our conference presenter. I had volunteered St. James to be a pilot parish for the program, and with much prayer and reflection, invited seven people to join me in an eight week study of the book which led us through an experiential process of sharing in prayer and our lives in Christ. For me the eight weeks were a deepening of my faith and connectedness with God and members of the group which lead to me being more aware and more open to opportunities to share my faith with others outside the church. Each member of the initial Unbinding the Gospel group has written of his or her experience. If you think you would like to be in a leadership group after having read these, please speak with me. Eventually everyone in St. James will be invited to participate in a modified six week program.



Ned Brooks - I was excited to join a group reading, studying and praying together with *Unbinding the Gospel* as our focus. While learning about evangelism, the challenges, the successes of others, looking closely at opportunities for our own church, was interesting and often inspiring, it was the closeness and supportiveness of our group of people gathered together listening to each other, sharing our joys and concerns and praying for each other that was most valuable. The prayer journal was a great challenge. I started with such good intentions, and the days in which appropriate time was spent centering, reading and praying were often rich and powerful. Then there were times when life seemed to interfere and with that came a feeling of failure.

It was encouraging to know others in the group faced similar problems. But our time together was reviving and meaningful and we were very supportive of each other. We learned a lot about each member of the group, which helped us, embrace everyone with love and patience, and it helped me to be conscientiously more open, tolerant, and empathetic towards others.

Susan Figge - This was my first experience of praying so consistently and so openly with and for a small group. We surprised ourselves, I think, with how quickly we were able to get beyond our first hesitations and to share our faith, our doubts, and our experiences with God openly and trustingly with each other. As the weeks went by, we grew closer to each other and in eagerness to pray when we were together. At the same time, even when I didn't set aside a formal time to pray, I found prayer becoming a more natural part of my life every day, and I felt filled with gratitude and more focused and mindful in the midst of everyday things. Our weeks together in the group and with my prayer partner helped me see how much I need regular prayer in my life and how much difference it would make if we prayed our way into and through our joys, fears, problems, decisions and new undertak-

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Editorial Information

The Joyful Noise is published monthly September through June as a ministry of St. James Episcopal Church. Submissions in accord with the Mission of St. James are encouraged. The address of the Editor is 429 Kinney Circle, Wooster, OH 44691 and you may e-mail: astolat@ssnet.com

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Folders this month:

Jean Barnes
Dick Figge
Gladys Hunter



Please add your name to the sign up sheets on the bulletin board for greeters and Coffee Hour hosts/hostesses.



Our Spring Ingathering for United Thank Offering was May 2nd

The blue boxes and UTO envelopes that were brought in contained \$597.00 and a check has been forwarded to the Diocesan Coordinator for United Thank Offering.

Thanks to all who participated in this Outreach project.

Saint James Episcopal Church

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Holy Eucharist Services

8:00 am and 10:30 am Sunday, 8:00 am Wednesday

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When there is no priest available, call Senior Warden, Bob Kendall, at (330) 264-0549 or Junior Warden, Marie Moore, in case of emergency.

The Collect for St. James': "Almighty and everlasting God, who didst move Thy servants in times past to establish and sustain this parish of St. James: Grant us grace so to follow their good example that we in our time may fulfill Thy will for us by knowing, loving, and serving Thee and Thy people; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen."

Evelyn's Epistle

Dear Friends,

Summer is almost upon us and starting June 6th the second service will begin at 10:00 a.m. Throughout the summer, at the second service, we will be using the Eucharistic Prayers from Enriching our Worship, which provide us with some different images and more inclusive language. These are the prayers we use on Wednesday mornings and on other special occasions during the church year. A couple of other changes we will make are to have the congregation say together the Prayer of Humble Access, (Almighty God, to who all hearts are open...). You will have one more thing to pray as well at both services, which is to share in the sending out of the Eucharistic Visitors who take communion to those unable to attend church. That prayer will be printed out for you at both services.

Summer is a wonderful time to invite friends and neighbors to church when people tend to be less rushed, less scheduled, and not restricted by the weather. On the Sundays I am away this summer, Morning Prayer will be led by our licensed Worship Leaders. If anyone would like coffee and conversation between services, I'll be available in the Parish Hall.

I pray that this summer is a time for refreshment, appreciation of God's creation, and peace for all of you.

Evelyn



Thank you to the Vestry for spending a day in retreat and their willingness to openly share their faith and prayers with one another.



Thank you to Janet Brayer for another year of caring, teaching, and loving our youngest members.

Thank you to the bell ringers for their first season and the choir, Jason, and Ned for a wonderful year of anthems, supporting and leading us in lifting our voices in song to God.

Thank you to Ned Brooks for organizing another fantastic year of Brown Bag Concerts and to Mary Hickey, and her helpers, Eloise Campbell, Gloria King, and John Hockett for the hospitality shown to our guests at those concerts.

Future Events

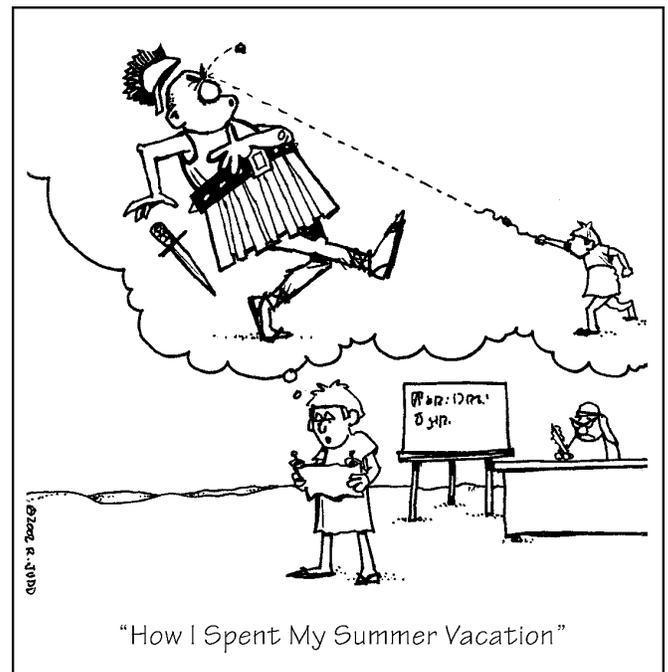
Mark your calendars for these future gatherings.

On the Feast of the Transfiguration, **August 6th**, we will gather to baptize Gareth Humm. Matt Humm will be our preacher and celebrant. It will be the first time we will enjoy Matt's ministry as a priest. There will be a reception following the service to catch up with Matt, Charity, Tristan, and for many, to meet Gareth for the first time.

We are having a parish picnic on **September 5th**, the Sunday in Labor Day weekend. We have reserved the large pavilion at **Christmas Run Park**. We will gather at 10:45 am for an outdoor Eucharist and then a picnic lunch. There will be a planning meeting this summer for anyone who would like to help with organizing the picnic.

Basic Bible Stories

Wish you knew the basics Bible Stories you didn't learn as a child or forgot you learned? Wish you could feel more comfortable picking up the Bible? Then this is for you: Introduction to Basic Bible Stories over the summer. We will meet when it is most convenient for the participants. Let Evelyn know if you want to try out Basic Bible Stories.



The Joneses

In **Harry Brown**, directed by Daniel Barber and starring Michael Caine, the title character, an old-age pensioner living in a low-income housing project, or council estate, in East London, observes with growing fear the world of vicious youthful gangs and drug dealers around him. He makes every effort to steer clear of it all and live his quiet life, but when his one friend, with whom he has the occasional pint and a game of chess, is murdered by these sociopaths, Harry, a former Marine, decides to take things into his own hands.

The film has garnered a very mixed bunch of reviews, many of them somewhere between angry and peevish. Pieces from *The Times Online*, for instance, speak of “quasi-fascist wish fulfillment, morally and politically repugnant,” “emetic bile,” and “a reactionary hand on the tiller.” Even the *New York Times* review by Manohla Dargis refers to the film as “an exercise in art-house exploitation, tarted up with self-importance,” and refers to Michael Caine’s character as “a former military man turned trigger-happy pensioner.” Warming to her topic, she says that Michael Caine matches Charles Bronson (in the 1974 film *Death Wish*) “vigilante move for move in the annals of big, bad, bloody, disreputable entertainment.”

This is hardly the stuff of thoughtful discussion, so let’s have a closer look.

Charles Bronson’s character Paul Kersey in *Death Wish*, directed by Michael Winner, is a liberal and a conscientious objector, but in a climate of growing urban crime, when his wife is murdered by a bunch of young thugs and the police seem helpless to find her killers, he takes up a gun and begins going after thugs and muggers in New York City, using himself as the bait. He never finds or seeks out his wife’s killers but engages in a one-man crusade that captures headlines and the public imagination and brings down the number of violent crimes in New York (excluding his own, of course). Unofficially, the film’s police rejoice in what he is achieving and don’t want him identified and arrested for fear that crime rates will again increase. The film suggests that, although he leaves New York, his campaign will continue elsewhere. We never learn much about Kersey’s assailants aside from the fact that they are hardened criminals, wicked characters to serve as targets. *Death Wish*, the original urban vigilante film, may have touched a nerve with its topic in 1974, but looked at now, it is an embarrassingly tacky film, thinly conceived and poorly acted, and the baddies all look as if they had done a quick dash through the wardrobe department. The director himself said, “There’s no moralistic side to *Death Wish*; it’s a pleasant romp.”

Harry Brown is a thoughtfully conceived, richly observed film that conveys a very real and unsettling sense of place. Michael Caine knows this area of London well, because this is where he himself grew up. His performance is superb, as is acknowledged even by those who hate the film. It is also a canny piece of casting because of the Caine persona. We have been watching this great actor since the 1960s. He brings the resonance of his fine earlier performances with him. In a sense he is our old friend, and in spite of our resistance to his actions, we find ourselves rooting for him. Casting another skillful but unfamiliar actor would have made it an entirely different film.

Harry Brown is also being compared by many to Clint Eastwood’s 2008 film *Gran Torino*, and the parallels are striking and more apt: Both central characters are older men, both widowers, both military veterans who are bewildered at what their world has become and appalled by the world of youthful gangs. When the gang strikes close to home, both men, drawing on their old skills, decide to take action.

To look upon the *Harry Brown* as a remake, however, would be to miss many crucial points; the differences are significant. *Gran Torino* focuses on the redemption of Eastwood’s character Walt

Kowalski, an embittered and bigoted Korean War veteran. Initially against his will, he becomes involved in the lives of his Hmong neighbors when their son, under coercion from a local gang, tries to steal Kowalski’s vintage Pontiac Gran Torino. In the course of the story, Kowalski comes to recognize the humanity of his immigrant neighbors, overcomes his prejudices, and conceives a clever and courageous way of bringing the gang members to justice. He uses guns to threaten, but he never shoots anyone.

Harry Brown is the gentlest and saddest of men. The cinematography by Martin Ruhe and editing by Joe Walker capture, in a deliberate pace, the details of his lonely existence as his day begins and he sets out on his daily round. When his friend Len asks about his experiences as a Marine in Northern Ireland, he refuses to answer, merely saying that when he met his wife, he realized it was essential to lock up that part of his life, to keep it sealed in a box for good. The events of the story prompt him to open that box, and Caine makes the transformation of the man thoroughly believable.

A nightmarish dramatic highlight of the film comes when Harry manages to get into the surrealistic lair of two of the criminals, where they have a marijuana farm and a large

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Richard Figge

Speaking of Movies

(cont. from p.4.)

supply of firearms. All sorts of alarms may go off as you watch him enter. Would they let him in? If they did, would they let him out again after he sees what goes on here? Would they sell him the weapons he is seeking? Does he know the danger he is in? Or is he prepared for it and courting it? Who but a man with nothing to lose would do the things he does? The setting itself is eerie enough, but nothing makes the sequence so harrowing as Sean Harris, truly frightening as the drug dealer Stretch.

The other most memorable encounter is with police inspector Alice Frampton (Emily Mortimer), soft-spoken and compassionate in her talks with Harry and a lot smarter than her self-important superiors. She has a strong sense of the pattern of vigilante shootings, but her insistent questions get her on the wrong side of the blinkered chief inspector.

Unlike either of the films to which *Harry Brown* is being compared, there is a strong sense of the whole environment, of the hopelessness that leads to chaos and random violence. In the opening of the film we see jerky, subjective footage taken from a motorcycle from which a gunman randomly kills a mother out pushing her baby's carriage. When Frampton tries to remind Harry, "It's not Northern Ireland, Harry," he answers her, "No it's not. Those people were fighting for something; for a cause. To them out there, this is just entertainment."

In this film - amazingly the first feature picture Daniel Barber has directed - there is a pervasive sense of the intractable problems of crime, drugs, chaos and social decay in the council estates a short distance from the cheerful London beloved of tourists. This film takes you into a deeply troubling world that will haunt you when the others are forgotten. The lingering mood of *Harry Brown* is near despair at the ongoing conditions not really touched by Harry's rampage. The young people are still growing up in ignorance and hopelessness, and the police and political leadership seem not to have a clue as to how the issues might be addressed.

What makes this such an unforgettable film is that it represents so believably a current social dilemma and the transformation of one man as he is drawn into its horrors. No wonder people are reacting so angrily. But anger directed at the film itself is surely misplaced.



Workshop on Faith, Outreach & Mission

from Susan Figge

Join members of the **Peace and Justice** and **Outreach Committees** for a workshop with the Rev. Mark Robinson, Diocesan Canon for Mission, **June 8**, 9:30 to 11:30, in the Parish Hall. The workshop will offer us an opportunity to reflect on what our mission work - our outreach and advocacy activities on behalf of those in need - means for us spiritually and theologically. What is the relationship between our mission work and our growth in faith and spirit, and how we can continue to grow in our understanding of what we are called to do as Christ's hands and heart in the world.

Please sign up on the bulletin board. For more information, contact Susan Figge (330) 262-6242 or susan.figge@gmail.com.

**A
BIG
THANK YOU**

We receive many thank you letters from our donations to Outreach programs. We have had letters from CAMO thanking us for the children's clothing from the Rummage Sale, which we gave to the Women's Shelter; and we have received thanks from Episcopal Relief and Development for our contribution to the Haiti Earthquake Response. These and other letters are posted on the bulletin board in the North St. entrance.



Unbinding the Gospel

(Cont. from p.1)

ings, individually and together.

Damon Hickey - I've had a growing sense that God is moving quietly but powerfully in my life, the life of St. James', the life of our diocese, and the life of the Episcopal Church. After I was given a copy of *Unbinding the Gospel* at a Diocesan Council meeting and I learned that a pilot group at St. James' was going to use the book, I wanted to be part of it because I felt that's where God was leading us and me. The book is about evangelism, and I still have reservations about the author's assumptions and approach. It did help me experiment with different approaches to prayer, especially aloud in a small group or with a prayer partner where there was a high level of trust and openness. It also gave structure and discipline to our group. But what I got out of our group's experience together went way beyond the book. In our group of eight, we hit the ground running, sharing with one another the first week experiences that some had not shared with anyone else. And the relationship that developed between me and my prayer partner Susan Figge sustained and enriched both of us. I learned so much! I learned that genuine prayer should precede and support every decision we make. I learned how far a little bit of private prayer can take me, and that for me praying constantly is a matter of using short times of prayer to increase my awareness of God and others throughout the day, not enduring heroically long periods of solitary prayer. I learned that every impulse to pray comes from God, not from me; I just need to practice listening and responding more. I learned that we need one another to pray and grow spiritually; groups and partners are essential. I also learned that my salvation and the salvation of the world are inseparable. God isn't pulling a few people off a sinking ship. God is transforming the ship and everyone on it to make us seaworthy, and God needs the help of as many passengers and crew as possible. I see evangelism now as making myself/ourselves more available to God and to one another to be part of that massive rescue and rebuilding in whatever ways God prompts us to speak or act. My comfort zone is still uncomfortably small, but God is expanding my horizons all the time. I'm excited for our church. Look around; where do you see hope right now? I see it in the Episcopal Church, the Diocese of Ohio, and St James', Wooster! I hope everyone in our congregation who wants it will have the chance to experience that hope through participation in a group such as ours.

Peggy Hockett - As many of you know I am now the possessor of a halo. Not the heavenly kind as seen in religious pictures but a very heavy structure of metal keeping my head in suspension and neck in place. I mention this because my fall and the trauma afterwards occurred after my experience with the "Unbinding" book and a small group sharing their thoughts and feelings about the material presented. The prayers, devotions, Bible readings and sharing

that took place through out those weeks helped to sustain me through a very painful and uncomfortable time. Prayer was a part of my life before but never so focused and directed as it was in the daily devotions we did during our reading and meeting. The sharing with others not only helped me to clarify some of my own feelings/fears but it was such a relief to find that others not only have some of the same doubts and questions but also the need to share them as did I. We formed a bond which we were reluctant to give up and look forward to when we can get together again. This experience with friends made me feel much closer and more understanding of God's healing grace and his love for us and with His help I hope to continue a better prayer life.

Mimi Moore - My experience with this book group was one of the most frustrating, and yet fantastic experiences of my life. I absolutely loved the time we spent discussing the chapters and came to depend on those times to help support me throughout the week. Although I was a complete failure in getting my private prayer time established, I was able to increase the time I spent thinking about my life as an expression of my faith. I know I need constant support with that, and I know I need constant relationship with Christ to achieve it. This type of group was exactly the kind of thing to help me achieve that. I cannot wait to start this all over again, and maybe even get the prayers done each day. I thank God for the people in this group and for the spirituality they all shared with me. It's uplifting just thinking about it!

Louise Plusquellec - For me, the group study of *Unbinding the Gospel* was an amazing process of learning more deeply than ever before about prayer, connection with others, and trust. I felt that I grew both on a personal level and in my relationship with others. Personally, I developed a clearer understanding of ways to pray and of how much faithful prayer means to me in deepening my relationship with God. With the group, I discovered that in an atmosphere of trust people can share thoughts and feelings, talk and pray together in ways that are beautiful and beneficial for each member. We discussed experiences of joy and connection as well as those of frustration and isolation in our spiritual lives, and the difficulties that stand in the way of sharing our faith with others. The book was our guide in these things, but God's presence was always there sustaining us and working to keep us open and aware. I will be forever grateful for this eight-week journey.

Celia Smart - Reading the book and joining the Unbinding group at St James offered me the opportunity to reorganize and actually spend the first of my day in prayer and focusing on each day using the filter of the readings and exercises. This was actually a return to a former practice, that I "didn't have time for anymore" but learned and used in the Disciples course study.

(Cont. Page 10)

Summer Birthdays

June

- 1 Marilyn Carman
Mary Hickey
- 2 Bob Davis
Pamela Winters
- 3 John Cook
- 4 Shannon Remillard
- 6 Jack Martin
- 10 Steve Glick
- 11 Emily Grifo
- 12 Janet McGinty
- 15 Ken Nuzum
- 16 Mary Gasser
Reilly Grosjean
- 17 Nick Brown
- 23 Fern Hamilton
- 26 Matt Sharp
- 27 Dan Iceman
Ruth Brown

July

- 4 Liz Glick
Howard Funk
- 7 Karen Kendall
- 14 Alan Kiefer
Devon Grosjean
- 20 Tony Gallagher
Albert Keller
Bob Kendall
Celia Smart
- 23 Ella Spitler
- 25 Richard Brooks
- 30 June Hulit
Suzanne Waldron

August

- 1 Nancy Reynolds
- 2 Dorothy Meenan
Joan Stanford
- 3 Bob Breeden
- 5 Bea Wylie
- 7 Jim Knight
- 13 Ken Plusquellec
- 14 Stephen Cook
- 16 Clara Patton
Danny Fugate
- 17 Jane Miller
- 18 Gwen Bayless
- 20 Sophia Anderson
- 22 Devon Spitler
Samuel Nester
- 23 Shirley Buytendyk
- 24 Thomas Lentz
- 30 Tim Urang

Summer Anniversaries

June

- 4/60 Jean and Bill Barnes
- 4/53 Mary and Ed Eberhart
- 7/99 Ruth and Charlie Brown
- 9/56 Leslie and Bob Breeden
- 12/71 Barbara and Ned Brooks
- 1994 Mary and Hank Murray
- 17/67 Stephen and Sue Cook
- 20/81 Hal and June Hulit
- 21/89 Amelia Laing and Cyril Ofori
- 2008 Scott Spence and Eloise
Campbell
- 22/68 Denny and Janet Brayer

July

- 3/63 Al and Inell Keller
- 7/90 Maury and Pat Watson
- 9/05 Tim and Kate Gallagher
- 10/81 Steve and Liz Glick
- 2009 Kyle and Pamela Winters
- 12/52 Dan and Janet Calhoun
- 14/04 Joey and Jessica Graser
- 15/06 Brandon and Devon Grosjean
- 18/92 Greg and Deborah Blough
Schmidt
- 18/86 Dan and Sue Gorman
- 21/07 Lee and Kim Wilson
- 29/95 Don and Nadine Foster

Aug.

- 3/74 Jim and Celia Smart
- 4/01 Scott and Stephanie Blanchard
- 7/93 Ray and Julia Henderson
- 8/98 Paul and Carrie Bonvallet
- 11/84 Rick and Joan Stanford
- 13/83 Russell and Velda Cross
- 16/69 Bob and Karen Kendall
- 24/57 Ken and Louise Plusquellec
- 25/01 Howard Funk and Marie Moore

The cost for flowers is \$40 plus tax for two arrangements. You are welcome to share dates with another family. If you wish to donate, please sign the calendar in the North Street Entrance. Flowers are ordered by Velda Cross, altar guild directress, from *Com-Patt-ibles*, who sends a bill to the parishioner. If you have special instructions, please indicate it on the calendar or give Velda a call on (330) 345-1416. The flowers are yours to take after the **second** service but PLEASE return the plastic inserts if you use them to transport the flowers home.



June

- 6 Ruth and Charlie Brown in celebration of their anniversary
- 13 Hank and Mary Murray in celebration of their anniversary
- 20 Gloria King in celebration of her daughter Mary's birthday and by Jane Richardson in memory of her daughter, Sarah
- 27 Martha Dutton in memory of her husband Horace

July

- 4 Mimi Moore and Howard Funk in celebration of Howard's birthday
- 11 Cameron Maneese for loved ones

- 18 Greg and Deb Blough-Schmidt in celebration of their anniversary
- 25 Gloria King in celebration of her daughter, Cynthia's birthday

Aug

- 1 Jim and Celia Smart in celebration of their anniversary
- 8 Merlin and Linda Peterson in memory of their parents
- 15 Joan and Rick Stanford in celebration of their anniversary
- 23 Mimi Moore and Howard Funk in celebration of their anniversary
- 30 Mike and Polly Barnes in memory of Abigail Barnes

Field Trip

from Andrew Remillard

Announcing a Church Field Trip to the OSU-ATI Dairy Facility

When: **June 20, 2010** at 3:00 p.m. (milking starts at 4:00 p.m.)

Where: ATI Dairy Barn 2332 Barnard Rd. Apple Creek, OH 44606

What to Wear: Clothes and shoes that you don't mind getting dirty.

What to Expect: Come and see the recently renovated dairy parlor (the place where the cows are milked) featuring new state-of-the-art equipment. Tour the free-stall barn where the milk cows are housed, visit the calf hutches where the baby calves are kept, and learn more about the dairy industry from our very own Andy Remillard.

Transportation/Directions: Evelyn made the suggestion that people could meet at the church and car pool out to the farm. For those of you that want to drive yourselves here are the directions from Wooster:

Take Rt. 250 East toward Apple Creek Approximately 5 miles. Just before you get to Apple Creek there is Barnard Rd. Turn left onto Barnard Rd. and the Dairy Barn is the second drive on the right and has a sign at the beginning of the drive that says "OSU-ATI Dairy."

Communion can be brought to you at home or in the hospital whether you find you cannot make it to church for two weeks or two months. Please call the office if you would like to arrange for communion.



When you or a member of your family is in the hospital, please let the office know. Due to privacy regulations, the hospital is no longer allowed to give us that information.

For those people who don't have a computer and would like to be added to the telephone tree, please call Jill Hockenberry at (330) 988-0209



Can you take a turn to recycle? We need folks who can take home the paper recycling from the sacristy and the office. Businesses do not have access to city recycling at the present time.



Penny Campaign Update

Thank you to everyone for donating pennies. So far this year the children have collected \$186.44! All of the money will be donated to feeding programs in the Wooster area.

People to People Food Collection

Thanks to everyone who donated food to People to People last month. The items of the month for June are **Canned Tuna & Paper Towels**.

Junior Warden's Notes

from Marie Moore

1. **Grubby Sunday** is upon us! June 6th after the 10:00 a.m. service we'll spread mulch, weed, trim and probably plant bushes if that's not done already. Please bring your yard implements, as will I with my wheelbarrow! Those who cannot work could possibly prepare lemonade and tea for those who are able. With enough people, this shouldn't take very long, and I like to have fun with whatever I'm doing! Join us!
2. By the way- if you would like to join the **Building and Grounds (B&G) committee**, call Mimi Moore. We would look forward to having you join us!
3. We had a professional designer do a landscape design for our north side. Where the grass is now, could be however much of the design we want. We will start by installing the bushes along the foundation, on or before Grubby Sunday. The design has been blown up and is on display in the parish hall, together with pictures of, and descriptions of, the suggested plants. Micheal Whitman, of Whitman Design Collaborative did this for us, the value of the which is \$700.00. You can let Mimi know any thoughts you have regarding this, and I will take your them to the B&G committee. You can call or leave a note in the box provided.
4. We are getting new flooring! The sanctuary and the parish hall are going to be carpeted. The vestry has chosen to use the estimate provided by Fields Carpeting, as their bidding and service were topnotch. The church received a bequest that will cover almost the full amount for both installations. If anyone is interested in helping to offset the balance, please contact Evelyn. The vestry felt strongly that improving the appearance in the church and the hall were important to show our stewardship to the church building itself. The current flooring has been down for more than 30 years in both the church and parish hall, and both are well past their prime.

If you have any questions or comments about any of this, please feel free to call Mimi Moore, at 330-682-1999.

CHT Update

from Carrie Bonvallet

Over the past year and half, St. James has been participating in the Natural Church Development program to promote the spiritual health of our church. Research on one thousand churches around the globe has helped to identify eight quality characteristics that can be used to evaluate the health of any church regardless of location or denomination. These eight characteristics are:

- Empowering Leadership
- Gift Based Ministry
- Passionate Spirituality
- Effective Structures
- Inspiring Worship Service
- Holistic Small Groups
- Need-Oriented Evangelism
- Loving Relationships

It is easy for a church to rely on its strengths and continue doing things the way they have always been done, but a healthy, growing church never remains stagnant. The Natural Church Development program helps congregations to quantitatively identify their weakest characteristic so that they may, with God's help, learn to use all of their gifts to grow as a strong and healthy faith community.

In late 2008 our survey of 30 members of our congregation revealed "Passionate Spirituality" to be our minimum factor (lowest-scoring category). The Church Health Team discussed this topic extensively and organized a number of activities within the church to address our needs as a spiritual community. We would now like to re-administer the survey to see how the church has changed and grown.

The current members of the Church Health Team will administer the next survey and then half of us are going to step aside to make room for new people to join the team. Just as a church needs to continually change and grow so does the Church Health Team. If the Natural Church Development process sounds interesting to you, please consider joining the new Church Health Team. Contact Mimi Moore for further information or to express your interest in joining.

Meals Together

from Ruth Brown

St James will be hosting **Meals Together** at the United Methodist Church on **Thursday August 19th**. There will be sign up sheets and more information in late July! Thanks to everyone for their continued support for this very worthy outreach cause. I am also looking for someone to co-chair Meals Together with me. We provide the meal twice a year at our convenience.

Financial Summary

Stewart Fitz Gibbon

At the request of the Rector and the Vestry, this very brief summary of the detailed five page financial report submitted to the monthly vestry meeting is being published in the Joyful Noise to keep the entire parish informed of our financial progress.

For the first four months of 2010, our summary of operating activity shows a surplus of \$11,506 compared to a deficit of \$77 for the first four months of 2009. The building fund increased by over \$7,000 due to an estate gift received in April. For the month of April, revenue was up due to Easter, but expenses were also up due to three pay periods during the month and a periodic pension fund payment due during in the month.

As previously reported, with many 2010 pledges being paid in December 2009 and January 2010 at a higher than normal rate, we have some operating cash in the bank, but with our discretionary cash reserves depleted, this balance will have to sustain us through the rest of the year.

St. James Episcopal Church Operations Summary for the month of April 2010

Total Revenue	21,315
Total Expense	24,074
Operating Surplus/ (Deficit)	(2,759)
Operating Account Balance	29,671



**TAKE
NOTE**

Gladys will be out of the office approximately 2 ½ months recovering from knee replacement surgery on June 11.

Office hours for the summer will be 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Weeks that the office is closed will be announced. If anyone would be available to help, please speak to Evelyn.



June 8th - 11th
Daily 9:00 am until
noon.

Unbinding the Gospel

(Cont. from p.6)

With my own personal schedule re-formatted, it expanded the return to this "habit" and it has become all the more meaningful to meet with our group to discuss, brainstorm, etc. with the others. The discussions with my prayer partner give me a "safer setting" to "try on" these reactions/feelings from the readings and exercises.

It personalizes the book and practices to share them with a small group. I am more comfortable to allow the process to work slowly and not feel compelled to embrace any or all concepts until I'm comfortable with them.

Hosts and Host Families Needed for COW Students

from Damon Hickey

This fall we would like to match interested College of Wooster students with individual hosts and host families at St. James', working with the Office of Interfaith Campus Ministries. Students may be Episcopalian, but some may not.

Since this is a new program, we cannot say for certain how many students will be interested. We want to be sure to have enough hosts lined up by August, but we may not need all of them this fall. If the program grows, more will be needed. There will be an opportunity for hosts to get together before they meet their students.

Hosts and their students will meet at an opening picnic, probably in mid-August, and may participate in other group events (such as Family Weekend potlucks, group game nights during the winter, service projects, or graduation receptions for seniors). Early in the fall and later on as appropriate, hosts should invite their students to church with them (and possibly to dinner afterward) and introduce them to others in the church, so that they can become part of the church's life if they so desire. Other activities might include cooking together, watching movies, playing games, going to the County Fair, sharing holiday meals, picnicking, hiking, biking, canoeing, bowling, attending sporting events, going to concerts, celebrating birthdays, visiting Amish country, shopping, or just enjoying conversation. Basically, host families and their students will work out what they enjoy doing together, as time allows.

If you are interested in becoming an individual host or a host family, please let Damon Hickey know (damonhickey@mac.com or 330-262-7059).

Happy and Joyful from the CHT

What a wonderful variety of responses the **Church Health Team** received to the question on their communication board, "What makes you happy or joyful, at St. James or anywhere else?" These responses included:

Worship in the community of St. James • Joy in relationships with God and fellow members • Friends and small groups • Sunlight streaming through the stained glass windows • Acolyting • People working together for others • Spring! • Pancakes! And bacon • Evelyn and music • Choir • Bible Study • Snow days • Bass fishing • Smiles • Madison Culver • Carrie Culver • Snow • The children in church Sun • Singing in the choir • Meeting new people • Thunderstorms with rain • My family and friends • Evelyn! • Helping out when not needed • Knowing I have such good friends at St. James • Seeing beautiful smiles • Jason's postlude improvisations • Dappled sunlight in the woods • Seeing great-grandchildren baptized • Peace and Justice • A student's face lighting up after I have explained something • Outreach programs • Bible Study rocks! • Watching baptisms • Music and singing • Flowers • St. Jamesians • All the animals God gave us, especially horses, gerbils and dogs • Nature • The smell of fresh-cut grass • The first signs of spring—snowdrops! • Easter • Rainbows

We seem to have a lot to be joyful about and thankful for! We look forward to seeing your responses to our new question, "What gift of God do you appreciate most in the summer?"

The Church Health Team



Habitat

The Third Annual "Out to the Inn for Habitat" will be held **Tuesday June 22** at The Wooster Inn. All proceeds from this event go to Habitat for Humanity of Wayne County. There will be two seatings - 5:30 and 7:30 P.M. - All new menu choices at last year's price - \$30.00 per person. This benefit includes a basket raffle, bartender competition, cash bar and music by Standard Time. Tickets may be purchased until June 19 at any local Buehler's, The Wooster Inn or from St. Jamesians Gwen Bayless, Pat Petsch or Polly Barnes. Tables of 8 may be reserved. Hope to see many of you there to support this great cause.

June 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
		1	2 8:00 am HE 9:30 No Bible Study	3 3:00 pm Outreach	4 3:00-4:00 pm Presiding Bishop speaking at Kenyon College	5	
6 8:00 am Worship 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee	7 Noon CHT	8 9:00 am - Noon: Mark Robinson Workshop 11:00 Coffee	9	10	11 Gladys' surgery	12	
		VBS 9:00 am to Noon			<i>Evelyn</i>	<i>On</i>	<i>Vacation</i>
13 8:00 am MP 10:00 MP 11:00 Coffee	14	15 <i>Evelyn</i>	16 8:00 am MP No Bible Study <i>In</i>	17 <i>Utah</i>	18	19	
20 8:00 am Worship 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee	21 Noon - CHT 7:00 pm Vestry meeting	22 Benefit Dinner for Habitat for Humanity @ Wooster Inn	23 8:00 am HE 9:30 Bible Study	24 1:30 pm Peace and Justice ← <i>Kenyon</i>	25 <i>Conference</i>	26 <i>Through</i>	
27 8:00 am Worship 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee <i>Today</i> →	28	29	30 8:00 am HE 9:30 Bible Study				

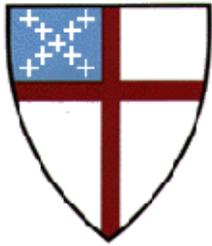
No Adult Forum until September

Summer schedule begins June 6 with Sunday services at 8:00 and 10:00 am. Wednesday morning service is at 8:00 am, Bible Study at 9:30 am. Some Sundays will be Morning Prayer rather than Eucharist.

Check bulletin and web site for any changes during summer.

- July 1 Bridges of Hope meal at 4:30 pm @ First Presbyterian
- July 5 Office closed for 4th July holiday
- Aug. 7-14 Evelyn at Chautauqua
- Aug. 15 *Joyful Noise* deadline

The Episcopal Church

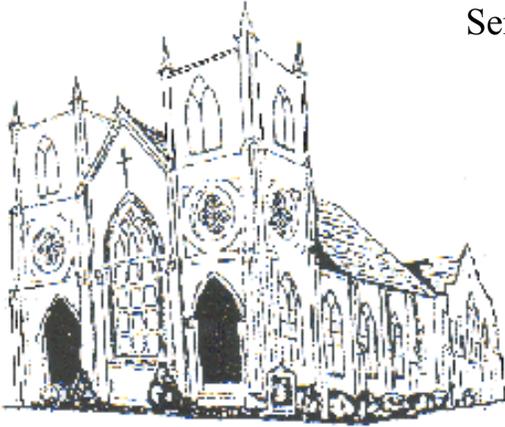


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What's Happening at St. James

- 4th June** **Presiding Bishop speaking at Kenyon College: 3:00 - 4:00 pm**
- 8th June** **Mark Robinson Workshop: 9:30 pm - Noon**
- 8th - 11th June** **Vacation Bible School: 9:00 am - Noon**
- 22nd June** **Habitat for Humanity Benefit Dinner, Wooster Inn: 5:30 pm and 7:30 pm**

June 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31