

# *The Cathedral Call*

November 2009

Dear Friends in Christ,

You will find included with this issue of the *CALL* a financial pledge form and a return envelop. It is my hope that you will give very careful and prayerful thought to your financial commitment to the life and work of the Cathedral and bring your pledge in the enclosed envelop to the Cathedral on Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November. On that Sunday, we will offer our pledges during the liturgy at the time of the Offertory. If you are unable to bring your pledge to the service, I hope that you will send it in by mail.

In early October, I wrote to you about the future of the Cathedral and reminded you that it is critical for the members and friends of Saint John's to understand how important they are for that future. Later this month, representatives of the Cathedral's leadership will meet with the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Delaware to present an update on Saint John's mission and ministry and the potential for sustaining both.

In January, Bishop Wright will meet with the Vestry at its regular third Tuesday meeting. The discussion at this meeting will also focus on sustainability, on the future. I really hope that at this meeting the Vestry can share good news with the Bishop about the financial commitment of the members and friends of the Cathedral for its life and work in 2010.

There is no question in my heart and mind about the vitality of the ministries of this Cathedral. Nor do I see anything but promise for the growth potential of those ministries in the years ahead, especially as the Brandywine Village enters into its next manifestation. But I am enough of a realist to know that the future, even with its wonderful potential, will not be actualized because of its promise. It will become a reality because of the faith, vision, commitment, and hard work of all of us.

The good news is that Saint John's has come through the last three and a half years, not limping, but briskly doing the work of the Lord here at Concord and Market. Not just maintaining that work but rather increasing it and charting new directions. The Cathedral and its partners, the Bishop and Diocese, Cathedral Community Services, and the Cathedral Choir School of Delaware now must engage the future. And to engage it, provisions for sustainability must be secured.

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Again, being a realist, which I can be when I really put my mind to it, those provisions may not be secured. If not, then the members of the Cathedral and the Cathedral's partners must together determine how to celebrate the over one hundred and fifty years of life and work here at Saint John's, and through mutual love and God's marvelous Grace move on. And there is good news in this as well, for moving on need not be a lonely thing when God's presence and love is acknowledged.

But for now, our intention is to secure the future for the mission and ministry, the life and work of the Episcopal Church in the Brandywine Village, thus a future for the Cathedral Church of Saint John. And here, fellow members and friends of the Cathedral, you will play a big role. There is no escaping just how important each one of us is in all of this.

So, there it is and here we are. I don't think that I need to say any more. The picture is clear and so is your importance in it. Bless you.

Faithfully,

William B. Lane

**Why Pledge to the Cathedral  
Church of Saint John?  
by Adele Meredith**

Delmarva Power, Verizon, and Comcast - these are all very familiar names to most of us. They are the businesses through which our families have

contracted services for electricity, gas, telephone and television. Part of those contractual agreements is that we, as the consumers of said services, will pay for those services. And we do. Every month, we as households pay for electricity, gas, telephone and cable, along with the mortgage, insurance, credit card and doctor bills, and the list goes on and on. We manage our financial obligations by means of a realistic and workable budget. And we plan for income and output. We know what our income will be, and expect that it will be manageable and predictable.

Now let's look at our spiritual household. Upon careful inspection we can see that our spiritual home has many of the same types of financial obligations. Utilities and goods and services must be paid for, just as our residential household expenses. The catch is that the income for our spiritual home is a bit more unpredictable in comparison to our household income. Saint John's needs the security of predictable income in the same way that families need that sense of security. For several years now, we have been drawing down our investment income to pay our monthly obligations. And just as using a credit card to pay for necessities is not a wise idea, neither is using our endowment principle in the same manner. It is an unsound financial practice and our "nest egg" is quickly disappearing.

When we are asked to prayerfully consider our contribution to the Cathedral, we need to examine the value that the Cathedral has in our life. Does the Cathedral meet our spiritual needs? What is the value of having those needs met? If one had to put a price on that value, what would it be? Is your family

getting "the best bang for your buck?" What does one's own financial situation dictate when it comes to the financial resources that can be budgeted toward supporting a spiritual home?

All of us have been hit by the events in the financial markets in the past year; no one was exempt. But we must look to the future. Situations will change and we as a responsible spiritual community must be prepared to face those changes with our financial house in order. Won't you consider what the Cathedral has meant to you and your family and pledge according to your ability? The Saint Johns' has bills to pay too.

### **Choir News**

by Anita Manning

Two of Delaware's historic choirs - the Choral Scholars of St. Andrews School and the Choir of the Cathedral Church of Saint John – will join voices in worship and song on **Sunday, November 15** at the Cathedral.

For the first time, "we're coming together for a very special day of music making," says Dr. Darryl Roland, director of the 126-year-old Cathedral Choir. The combined choirs will sing anthems by Bloch, Howells, Mendelssohn, and Stanford.

The choirs are unique in Delaware, says Dr. Roland, in that "they have given priority to the musical training of young people throughout their histories, and have thrived into the 21<sup>st</sup> century."

About 30 students of St. Andrews School in Middletown, founded in 1929, will join the 55-member Cathedral Choir, which includes adults and students of the Cathedral Choir School

of Delaware, at a 10:30 a.m. Eucharist. The Cathedral Choir and a smaller number of St. Andrews honor students will sing at Evensong at 4:00 p.m.

Both choirs follow the ancient English cathedral music tradition, using the Royal School of Church Music in America's curriculum, says Gary Harney, Director of Choral Music at St. Andrews. They train students of all races and backgrounds, and each choir has strengths that will complement the other, he says. "I think it will be a nice sound. It will bring out the best in both groups."

The services, which are open to all, offer a rare opportunity to hear these historic choirs sing together, and it's one Bill Hearn of Wilmington won't miss. Hearn, who attends St. Albans, was a boy chorister of the Cathedral Choir from 1934 to 1942 and sang at St. Andrews as a student in 1944-45. He plans to attend both the Eucharist and Evensong. "I will try to sit up close to the front, so I can hear everything," he says.

The choirs haven't sung together previously because "the two groups are often working at the same time in different places," Harney says, "so this is a special, a rare opportunity".

### **Cathedral Bake Sale**

***Sunday, November 8***

Delicious baked goods will be available for sale following the 10:30 a.m. service. Donate your own specialties to sell and enjoy the chance to purchase goodies for yourself or family. ***Call Ruth Walls at 764-1343 to offer donations or if you have questions.***

## **ORDINATION**

Our own **Cecily Sawyer-Harmon** will be ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacon on Saturday the 5<sup>th</sup> of December at 1:00 p.m. in Saint Stephen's Church, Harrington. Saint Stephen's is located at 190 Raughley Hill Road in Harrington. It will mean a great deal to Cecily to have a good representation from the Cathedral at her ordination. There will be five others ordained that day.

### **Last Chance to Attend a Cottage Meeting**

Cottage Meetings are opportunities for a small group of Cathedral members to meet in a member's home or after church and enjoy fellowship and discuss ways of focusing on the life and work of the Cathedral. These are wonderful chances to get to meet new friends, deepen relationships with those you already know and learn more about what is happening at the Cathedral.

There is a Cottage Meeting planned after the 10:30 a.m. service on **Sunday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>** hosted by Rich Wadman. To sign-up, please use the sign-up sheet on the Greeter's Table on Sunday morning. You may also call the church office at 302-654-6279, or **call or email Linda Whitehead at 302-652-2704 or [lindaw302@verizon.net](mailto:lindaw302@verizon.net)**. Take advantage of this great opportunity.

### **Youth Group Teens are Ministers TOO!**

In October we .....

- \* checked out the parish ministry fair,
- \* consulted the Book of Common Prayer to review our baptismal promises and the various ministries of the laity,

- \* read the Bible to consider the many varieties of gifts and ministries,
- \* and discussed the gifts each of us can offer to promote God's world of justice, community, abundance, and joy.

Put these Sundays on your calendar!

**November 22 and December 13**

All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome to attend Youth Group on these dates.

We meet from **12:00 noon until 1:30p.m.** in the Common Room. Lunch is served!

**Remember -- 2 + 2!**

That is, bring \$2 to help pay for lunch **AND 2 cans** to help stock the food pantry for people in the community.

Youth Group is a chance to have some **fun** while learning about your **faith** and hanging out with some **friends** (and eat lunch and share **food** with the community, too).

Questions? Please call **Laura Eisenman** at 302-683-1829 or contact her by email at [LTEisenman@comcast.net](mailto:LTEisenman@comcast.net)

### **Lector Training Notice**

***Please note that the November 7, 2009, Lector Training session has been canceled.***

There are now two new opportunities scheduled: **Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November following the 10:30 a.m. service, and Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> of December at 10:00 a.m.** Please remember that attendance at one of these sessions is required. If you are not yet a lector and would like to be one, please join us.

## **Cathedral Flea Market and Silent Auction**

On **Sundays, November 8 and 15**, following the 7:30 and 10:30 a.m. services, there will be a flea market of items found in our third-floor cleanup project. There will be white elephant tables as well, with more valuable items to be offered to the highest bidder. Bids for those items will be secret, and items will be awarded to the highest bidder as of 1:00 p.m., November 15. Be sure to join us on November 8 and/or November 15 for fun and for support of our Cathedral.

## **Evangelism Canvassing by Adele Meredith**

Our Evangelism Canvassing campaign is going well. We have had three Saturdays where members of the congregation have delivered information about the Cathedral and the Cathedral Choir School to neighborhoods in the Cathedral vicinity. To date, we have delivered information to approximately 900 homes. Much more needs to be completed, however. We would like to canvass the Triangle Neighborhood and the Trolley Square Neighborhood. Also being considered is the area east of Concord Ave. from Miller Road toward Lea Boulevard. This is a vast amount of real estate to cover and we've had a "hail and hearty" crew of 3 – 4 folks who have come out each time. For upcoming canvassing dates the Vestry is hoping to have at least 10 people volunteer to walk through designated Wilmington neighborhoods to deliver information about the Cathedral. It takes approximately an hour to deliver the materials and no one walks alone as there will always be at least one other person with you on this journey. We

have a great deal of fun as we walk. Plus, we get some needed exercise and learn more about this wonderful city of which the Cathedral community is a part. Won't you join us for a Saturday of good fun as we spread the good news about the Cathedral Church of Saint John? For more information about our Evangelism Canvassing Campaign please contact **Joan Bobnick at 302-655-8543** or feel free to speak with any member of the Vestry.

## **Personal Care Donations**

For many years we have provided donations of personal care items to Friendship House as part of our outreach. Our own Neighborhood Assistance Program has recently asked that we provide personal care items to those in our neighborhood, and donations of toiletries will now be directed to the Neighborhood Assistance Program. Bar soap, shampoo and / or conditioner, deodorant, Q-tips, tissues, toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash, dental floss, razor and shaving cream, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products, lip balm and body lotion are frequently-mentioned needs. Please include your donations with the food basket offering or leave in the basket in the Great Hall. Thank you!

## ***Parish Work Day Advance Notice***

A Cathedral Parish Work Day will be held on **Saturday the 7th of November** beginning at 9:00 a.m. and will include lunch at 11:30 a.m. Work Days serve two purposes: Giving the public areas of the Cathedral a good cleaning, and providing an opportunity for fellowship. Please put this date and time on your calendar and join the Clean-up Team.

## People and Places

**Miriam Coverdale**, mother of **Mary Ellen Knothe** died on Wednesday, September 2, 2009. Her funeral service was held at the Cathedral.

Marshall Wright, **Bishop Wright's** youngest brother, died in early September.

## Thanksgiving Outreach

Each year we provide 15 families with Thanksgiving dinner including all the trimmings. For anyone interested in contributing to this holiday celebration, we are asking for the following donations:

Frozen turkey  
Canned vegetables  
Canned sweet potatoes or yams  
Canned fruit  
Stuffing mix  
Instant mashed potatoes  
Packages of pasta or rice  
(\*We already have in stock, large quantities of cranberry sauce and gravy mix,)

For those who wish to make a monetary donation, checks should be written to: **Neighborhood Assistance** and can be added to the offering or mailed to the office. *For questions, please contact Ben Knox at 998-6359. Thank you.*

## E.C.W. BUS TRIP

**The Episcopal Church Women Diocesan Board is sponsoring a bus trip, open to all the churches in the Diocese, on Wednesday, November 4, 2009.** The group will travel to Washington, D.C. to visit the Holocaust Museum and the Washington National

Cathedral (and if time permits, also for Vespers at the Cathedral). Pickup spots will be at the Cathedral at 7:30 a.m. and at Christ Church, Dover, at 9:00 a.m. Cost per person is \$55 which includes transportation to both sites, lunch at Phillips Flagship Restaurant ("All-You-Can Eat Seafood Buffet"), and gratuity to the bus driver. Checks should be made payable to "**ECW Diocesan Board**" and should be mailed to: **St. James Episcopal Church, 2 South Augustine Street, Wilmington, DE 19804.** Seating is limited so reservations will be accepted until there are no seats available. Any questions? **Call the Reverend Sarah Nelson at 994-2029 or Helen Whitson at 656-2939.**

## Cathedral Birthdays

Alethia Mosley	11/1
Cislyn Taylor	11/3
Sonia Keane-Dawes	11/3
Charles Russell	11/4
Cameron Dixon	11/7
Parker Wright	11/9
Carolyn Verbit	11/10
Jessica Whitehead	11/13
Bernadette Holcomb	11/16
Nathaly Murillo	11/16
Monica Badagliacco	11/16
Emily Sardo	11/16
Barry Young	11/17
Kenneth Drummond	11/18
George Romain	11/19
Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly	11/19
John Goodill	11/22
Joan deConinck	11/24
Ellen Friar	11/27
Gavin Connolly	11/28
Tom Hoffman	11/29
Katrina Schmidt	11/30

## Cathedral Anniversaries

Charles and Mary Ellen Knothe 11/17

**Why We Provide  
Financially for Saint John's  
by:**

**Joe Tatnall and Dan Colburn**

We belong. We are members. We chose the Cathedral Church of St John to be our church because of its location in the heart of things, its mission and its music. We are happy that our talents are useful here in the choir, the kitchen, and the organization. We know that the "church" is the people, but we meet in a beautiful building which costs money to light and heat and fill with music, and to keep in good repair. There are professionals who work there who minister to us in many ways and they need to earn a living wage. We belong, just as we belong to the YMCA or a local community club. As members we work to make the program happen, and we contribute by pledging to support the operations of the Cathedral financially. As a family unit we budget to ensure we fulfill our pledge monthly. We made the choice to be here. It's our responsibility to ensure it is here when we come.

**Anita Manning**

Being a member of this Cathedral community matters to me in a very fundamental way. The music, the fellowship, the beautiful worship space and liturgy, and the history of this church are part of my life. It is an honor to join with others here at the Cathedral Church of St. John and in the wider Episcopal Church to do what we can to improve the lives of people in our community. I consider

supporting this work to be a responsibility and a privilege.

**Linda Whitehead**

When I was a little girl, there were a number of Saturday night rituals in my family: either my older brother or I would be responsible for polishing the family's shoes; my mother would be ironing our Sunday clothes; and my father would be filling our Sunday School offering envelopes with quarters. My Dad had a talk with me about tithing and contributing to my own church offering envelopes. Each week I would add whatever I could from my weekly allowance.

When I graduated from college and took my first full-time job, it just seemed natural to set aside a substantial percentage of my income for my church home. It was just what you did. Over the years, I have seen my weekly contributions working in so many ways to fulfill the church's mission in the church families I have been fortunate to be a part of. It seems most important now in a time of uncertain financial circumstances when our contributions matter even more to the life of the Cathedral. I have always been pleased to see my contributions working in many ways. I would encourage all of us to pledge so we can continue the significant work of the Cathedral of St. John. I have always gained as much from giving as from receiving.

**Roberta Walker**

Growing up in a church-going family, my siblings and I were taught that giving of our resources to the church was a responsibility and a duty.

Throughout my childhood, I remember being immensely proud of the coins I so ceremoniously gave each Sunday. I felt important! While I no longer harbor such childlike emotions, I do feel a keen sense of responsibility to my church. I give so that my church can minister to and enrich the lives of others. I give for the maintenance of our beautiful edifice where I find sanctuary and great peace. Giving for me is about commitment to a spiritual life and for appreciation of God's enormous blessings.

### Norm Veasey

The life and work of the Cathedral Church of St. John is crucial to the uplifting of children and others at risk in the Brandywine Village and North Market Street area, not to mention the nurturing of an outstanding liturgical and music environment. So, for many decades – even while we lived somewhat distantly in Centreville – Suzy and I have strongly felt not only that we should not abandon the Cathedral to attend a more convenient church, but also that we needed to support the Cathedral by pledging significantly of our “time, talent and treasure”. It is the “treasure” part of the equation that is vitally needed now and in the foreseeable future to sustain the Cathedral and help it to survive and flourish. We hope we can continue to do our part and that others will, as well.

**Parish Life Day.....for *Body and Soul.....Learning to live a healthy lifestyle....***

**Saturday, November 21**

**10 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.**

**St. Anne's Episcopal School in Middletown**

Join parishioners from all over the diocese for a one-day event filled with workshops, activities and fun. Check out over 30 ministry and retail exhibits including chair massage, blood pressure and other health-related displays.

***Workshop offerings include:***

healthy cooking  
chiropractic  
nutrition education  
chanting  
de-stress and de-clutter  
Svaroop yoga ...and more...

***PLUS***

all day children's programs

You can register online at [www.dioceseofdelaware.net](http://www.dioceseofdelaware.net) or contact the Cathedral at (302) 654-6279. Your \$15 registration fee includes continental breakfast and lunch. Registration deadline is November 7.