

## St. Paul's Newsletter, Nov. 2007

### What the Pilgrims Ate

by The Rev. Earl Beshears

Every Sunday morning and again on Wednesday morning, we celebrate the Great Thanksgiving in word and sacrament. We give thanks to God for his love and for the gift of Jesus Christ. We come to the altar with upraised palms and hear the words “the body of Christ, the bread of heaven” and “the blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.”

Every November, we as a nation, celebrate what we call Thanksgiving Day. This holiday is a time when families gather for feasts of turkey and dressing, we tell New England pilgrim stories, we watch football, Christmas shopping begins full swing, and Charlie Brown waits on the Great Pumpkin (or is that Halloween?). It is also a time of remembering and giving thanks.

One dear Thanksgiving memory comes from November 1975. Our son was five years old and he wanted a historically accurate Thanksgiving dinner like the Pilgrims. This meant no “butter ball” turkey, no stove top dressing, and no *Mrs. Smith's* pumpkin pie. Instead, he and his mother read Pilgrim and Indian stories and put together a menu of what they thought the Pilgrims and Indians would actually have to eat. Instead of turkey, dressing and pumpkin pie, we had baked fish, oysters, roasted squash, corn on the cob, fresh baked bread, and baked apples. It was delicious and much fun. Our guests that day were disappointed that there was no turkey, dressing, and pumpkin pie and said, “from now on, we'll have Thanksgiving dinner at our house.” OK, so much for historical accuracy, from now on we're having turkey.

When I think of those early settlers, whether it be Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock or the Englishmen in Jamestown, and how they faced relentless hunger, disease, cold, and loneliness, I cannot imagine how horribly brutal their lives must have been. A meal of baked fish, oysters, roasted squash, corn on the cob, fresh baked bread, and baked apples would be a feast by anyone's estimation and reason for thanksgiving.

My hope for each of us is that this Thanksgiving, we will put aside the focus on menu, shopping, football, and other entertainments to count our blessings. My blessing list begins with three healthy grandchildren, Aaron and Mary Anne, Jean, my mother, this parish, Nicky and so forth. My list will grow.

Even more, my hope for each of us is that we will take the time to say “thank you” this Thanksgiving Day. Thank you to each other, to the people we love and the people who love us. Thank you to God from whom all our blessings come. Isn't that what Thanksgiving is all about?

## DISTANT NEIGHBORS SUPPORTS THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

At the start of the new millennium, leaders from 191 nations, including the United States, agreed on a plan to cut extreme global poverty in half by 2015. Together, they created the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The eight goals are:

- Goal 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger
- Goal 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education for Children
- Goal 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women
- Goal 4: Reduce Child Mortality
- Goal 5: Improve Maternal Health
- Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases
- Goal 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability
- Goal 8: Create a Global Partnership for Development

At the 75th General Convention in 2006, the Episcopal Church voted to make the MDGs a mission priority over the next triennium and endorsed a partnership between the [Episcopal Church and ONE: The Campaign to Make Poverty History](#). All of Episcopal and Relief and Development's international programs address the MDGs.

**MAKING IT REAL** *Elize lives with her husband and eight children in Kapolowe, a village in the Diocese of Katanga in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Because malaria is rampant in the area, Elize was spending a large portion of the family's limited income on medical treatment for her children's frequent bouts with the illness. The treatments were typically ineffective and actually caused drug resistance to malaria. When Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) and the Diocese of Katanga implemented a malaria prevention program in her village, Elize received a long-lasting, insecticide-treated net to protect her family and learned basic techniques to prevent malaria. She also learned how to identify symptoms early and what medicines are truly effective. Since obtaining the net and receiving the training, no one in her family has contracted malaria. Thanks to ERD, Elize is now using her newly-acquired knowledge to organize her neighbors in community action on malaria prevention.*

(submitted by The Rev. Earl Beshears)

Fair Trade Festival  
November 16 and 17, 2007

This newsletter contains the last article written by our (your) Fair Trade Festival Committee.

Since March of this year your Festival committee members have spent considerable time in preparation for this event. Fund raising, advertising, planning, communications throughout the area, special coffee hour programs, Fair Trade awareness, etc., but all will be for Naught if we have not reached you as a member of St. Paul's Church.

We need you to sign you to help on the days of the festival, but more importantly, we need your commitment to support the Festival and the Fair Trade philosophy of helping to improve the life of millions of people in developing countries throughout the world.

Hopefully the video we saw on Oct. 28 helped us better understand the benefits of fair trade marketing. Many religious groups are already involved including Episcopal Relief, Lutheran's World Relief, Mennonite Central, Church of the Brethren, Presbyterian Churches, United Church of Christ, Methodist Churches, and Unitarian Universalists.

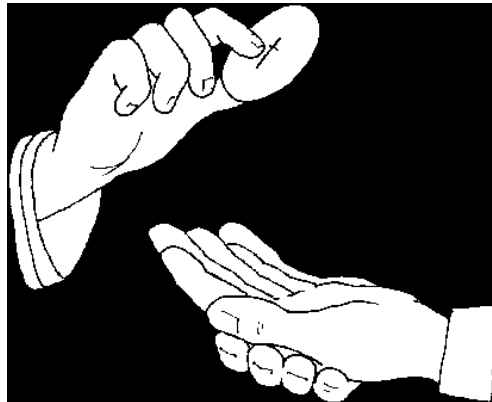
Coincidentally, October 27 was MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY which is a day dedicated to helping others. Hopefully some of you saw the article from USA Weekend in the Sunday News Journal.

One person CAN make a difference. See you at the FESTIVAL, November 16-17.

## SAINT PAUL'S THANKSGIVING DAY WORSHIP

9:00 A.M., THANKSGIVING MORNING  
NOVEMBER 22

*IN WORD, SONG, AND SACRAMENT  
WE WILL THANK GOD  
FOR ALL THE BLESSINGS OF THIS LIFE*



*Sing now of mourning turned into dancing,  
sing now the myst'ry, hope of our glory,  
sing with thanksgiving, alleluia!  
Sing now of fasting turned into feasting,  
sing the Lord's favor lasting forever;  
sing all things living, alleluia!*

from the hymn Day of Delight and beauty Unbounded  
by Delores Dufner in Wonder Love and Praise

## A Thanksgiving Prayer

### A Litany of Thanksgiving

from *The Book of Common Prayer* (p 837)

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea,

*We thank you, Lord.*

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

*We thank you, Lord.*

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

*We thank you, Lord.*

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

*We thank you, Lord.*

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,

*We thank you, Lord.*

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

*We thank you, Lord.*

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

*We thank you, Lord.*

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

*We thank you, Lord.*

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

*To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.*

(Submitted by The Rev. Earl Beshears)

## A Thanksgiving Prayer

### Thanksgivings for National Life

from *The Book of Common Prayer* (p 838)

Almighty God, giver of all good things:

We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land.

They restore us, though we often destroy them.

*Heal us.*

We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, though we often exploit them.

*Forgive us.*

We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, though we often fall short of them.

*Inspire us.*

We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light.

*Enlighten us.*

We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again.

*Renew us.*

Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name. *Amen.*

(Submitted by The Rev. Earl Beshears)

## Heroes of the Faith – November 7

### Willibrord, Archbishop of Utrecht, missionary to Frisia, 739

We know about Willibrord's life and missionary labors through a notice in the Venerable Bede's *Ecclesiastical History* and a biography by his younger kinsman, Alcuin. He was born in Northumbria about 658, and from the age of seven was brought up and educated at Bishop Wilfrid's monastery at Ripon. For twelve years, 678-690, he studied in Ireland, where he acquired his thirst for missionary work.

In 690, with twelve companions, he set out for Frisia (Holland), a pagan area that was increasingly coming under the domination of the Christian Franks. There Bishop Wilfrid and a few other Englishmen had made short missionary visits, but with little success. With the aid of the Frankish rulers, Willibrord established his base at Utrecht, and in 695 Pope Sergius ordained him a bishop and gave him the name of Clement.

In 698 he founded the monastery of Echternach, near Trier. His work was frequently disturbed by the conflict of the pagan Frisians with the Franks, and for a time he left the area to work among the Danes. For three years, 719-722, he was assisted by Boniface, who at a later time came back to Frisia to strengthen the mission. In a very real sense, Willibrord prepared the way for Boniface's more successful achievements by his relations with the Frankish rulers and the papacy. who thus became joint sponsors of missionary work. He died at Echternach, November 7, 739.

Collect: O Lord our God, you call whom you will and send them

where you choose: We thank you for sending your servant Willibrord to be an apostle to the Low Countries, to turn them from the worship of idols to serve you, the living God; and we entreat you to preserve us from the temptation to exchange the perfect freedom of your service for servitude to false gods and to idols of our own devising; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

(Submitted by The Rev. Earl Beshears)

## Heroes of the Faith – November 14

### Consecration of Samuel Seabury *First American Bishop, 1784*

Samuel Seabury, the first Bishop of the Episcopal Church, was born in Groton, Connecticut, November 30, 1729. After ordination in England in 1753, he was assigned, as a missionary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, to Christ Church, New Brunswick, New Jersey. In 1757, he became rector of Grace Church, Jamaica, Long Island, and in 1766 rector of St. Peter's, Westchester County. During the American Revolution, he remained loyal to the British crown, and served as a chaplain in the British army.

After the Revolution, a secret meeting of Connecticut clergymen in Woodbury, on March 25, 1783, named Seabury or the Rev. Jeremiah Leaming, whichever would be able or willing, to seek Episcopal consecration in England. Leaming declined; Seabury accepted, and sailed for England.

After a year of negotiation, Seabury found it impossible to obtain episcopal orders from the Church of England because, as an American citizen, he could not swear allegiance to the crown. He then turned to the Non-juring bishops of the Episcopal Church in Scotland. On November 14, 1784, in Aberdeen, he was consecrated by the Bishop and the Bishop Coadjutor of Aberdeen and the Bishop of Ross and Caithness, in the presence of a number of the clergy and laity.

On his return home, Seabury was recognized as Bishop of Connecticut in Convocation on August 3, 1785, at Middletown. With Bishop William White, he was active in the organization of the Episcopal Church at the General Convention of 1789. With the support of William Smith of Maryland, William Smith of Rhode Island, William White of Pennsylvania, and Samuel Parker of Boston, Seabury kept his promise, made in a concordat with the Scottish bishops, to persuade the American Church to adopt the Scottish form for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

In 1790 Seabury became responsible for episcopal oversight of the churches in Rhode Island; and at the General Convention of 1792 he participated in the first consecration of a bishop on American soil, that of John Claggett of Maryland. Seabury died on February 25, 1796, and is buried beneath St. James' Church, New London.

(Submitted by The Rev. Earl Beshears)

## Heroes of the Faith – November 28

### Kamehameha and Emma, King and Queen of Hawaii 1864, 1885

King Kamehameha IV and his wife Emma were Christian rulers who encouraged the building of Christian schools and hospitals, and who contributed greatly to the spread of Christianity among the Hawaiian people. The King was worried by the growth of American political influence, directly connected with the work of American missionaries, many of whom openly favored annexation of the islands by the United States. He accordingly invited the

Church of England to send missionaries and to establish a presence in Hawaii. (While touring England as a prince, he had attended worship services, and had been favorably impressed.) But, although the King's support of the Church of England was perhaps politically motivated, his support of Christianity was not. He and his wife were earnest in their devotion to both the material and the spiritual welfare of their people. The King personally translated the Book of Common Prayer and much of the Hymnal into Hawaiian. Their only son died in 1863, and the King died, apparently of grief, on 30 November 1864. The Queen devoted the remainder of her life to charitable endeavors (Queen's Hospital, the largest civilian hospital in Hawaii, is largely her doing). She died in 1885.

Hawaii was made a territory in 1900 and a State in 1959.

Collect: O Sovereign God, who raised up Kamehameha and Emma to be rulers in Hawaii, and inspired and enabled them to be diligent in good works for the welfare of their people and the good of your Church: Receive our thanks for their witness to the Gospel; and grant that we, with them, may attain to the crown of glory that never fades away; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Redeemer, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

(Submitted by The Rev. Earl Beshears)

*The Episcopal Peace Fellowship of Delaware*

*Our Vision*

*By God's love, to know peace.  
By Christ's example, to live peace.  
By the Holy Spirit, to proclaim peace.  
To pray for peace when it seems unpopular.  
To insist on peace when it seems unreasonable.  
To believe in peace when it seems irrational.  
To strive for peace when it seems unreachable.  
To love peace when it seems unachievable.  
To practice peace in all our relationships;  
and faith to faith.  
By the grace of God,  
that His peace be done on earth  
as it is in heaven.*

To the Parishioners of St. Paul's Episcopal Church

It has been a year now since I was received into the Episcopal Church at St. Paul's. It has been a happy and blessed year. I enjoy the warm and friendly feeling of really belonging and I must admit, for the first time in my life, I have begun reading the Bible and enjoying it.

Thank you for accepting me as a member of your family.

Sincerely,  
Ginny Collins

My childhood prayer (that was a **long** time ago)

Angel of God  
My guardian dear  
To whom God's love  
Entrusts me here  
Ever the day  
Be at my side  
To light and guard  
To rule and guide.

Humor

### The Funeral

As with many funerals, it was a cloudy, rainy day.

The deceased was a little old lady who had devoted her entire married life to fussing at her poor husband. The graveside service had no more than terminated, when there was a tremendous burst of thunder accompanied by a distant lightning bolt.

The little old man looked at the pastor and calmly said, "Well, she's there."

submitted by The Rev. Earl Beshears

### Big and Little Kids Page

Use the telephone dial to find out which commandments Jesus considered most important. Each pair of numbers has a dial number and a letter number. For example, 53 is dial number 5 and the third letter on that dial, L. After you have finished, check your answer by reading Mark 12:30, 31.

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
53-63-83-32	81-42-32	53-63-72-31	93-63-82-72	41-63-31
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
91-43-81-42	21-53-53	93-63-82-72	42-32-21-72-81	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

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93-63-82-72-73-32-53-33

Luncheons bring apples and more--

If you walked into the parish hall on September 9, you were struck by the colors! The Back-to-School luncheon was a festive and fun way to mark the change of the family calendar. Back to normal activities. Back to early risings. Back to weekend ball games and mid-week practices.

Having a theme for the monthly luncheon has just sort of happened. But it is a good thing. And we will have many more such good things.

As you read this, the African luncheon has already taken place. September 29, Angie Rummel generously donated her recipes and time in the church kitchen, along with a few volunteers, to prepare an authentic meal for Sept. 30. She also brought a few items from her time in South Africa and shared a few memories.

November 4 the Parish Luncheon will be sponsored by the Vestry: chicken, baked beans, salads, desserts -- the works. Thank you Earl, Dick, Chris, Libby, Judy, Buster, Cindy, Ginny, Amanda, Jessica, Bobbie and Bruce (ad hoc member)

December 2 is the Sunday Funday when crafts are created for Advent Season. Jean is planning a "Christmas Around the World" theme this year. Deby Daly will host the finger-food-friendly luncheon treats. They would both appreciate help from the rest of us. Ask them how to best join in.

## Coffee Chatter

There are several open slots for coffee hour hosts. See the yellow sign up sheet near the kitchen door.

November looks like a cake month:

Nov. 11 - Veterans' Day celebration

Nov. 18 - Bishop's Visit

Nov. 25 - November Birthdays???

Are you willing to bake a cake and bring it in? Call Cindy; 934-8874

November 1 Michele Evans  
7 Libby Stevenson  
8 Sean Whelen  
9 Chris Attalian  
12 Peter Goebel  
13 Donald Sipple  
15 Cindy Henk  
16 Harrison Littleton  
20 Jack Blakeley  
23 Izetta Sipple  
29 Christina LaGasse

## Fr. George Stokes

Fr. George has moved to assisted care. His new address is:

The Rev. George Stokes  
1121 Plateau Lane  
Raleigh, N.C. 27615

Telephone: 919-334-2354

His daughter-in-law, Sabrina, tells me that Fr. George's is doing well and would like to hear from you.

The Rev. Earl D. Beshears

With Apologies to Mary Howitt for a slight revision to her poem:

"Come into my parlor"  
Said the spider to the fly,  
"And see the wonders there."

Yes, come into the parlor at St. Paul's and see the wonderful selection of books.

Nancy Whelen cleaned out some areas  
Jean Beshears slid in a new bookshelf  
And now we have a Book Exchange Area.

The small bookshelf near the door  
Holds books you can simply pick up  
Read, keep, give away or put back.

Nice idea.

Thanks!!

"So like the spider we wove a subtle web in a little corner shelf where one can leave a book or choose a book to simply enjoy oneself." (Submitted by Cindy Henk)

Dear Friends:

As many of you know by now, I work for Children and Families First at our Georgetown office. Additionally, we have locations at Wilmington, Dover, and Seaford.

This year I am appealing to you for toys for our needy families. Our clients are children of all ages, race, color, and creed and come from a variety of backgrounds. My intention is to place a box in the rear of St. Paul's Church for collection. And as you choose what to give, please remember that we have older children as well and typically they are left out. Perhaps I could suggest board games, movies (Wal-Mart has a bin filled with movies which you can purchase for as little as \$5 or two for \$11) and CDs, as well as age appropriate gifts for younger children.

This year, because of the generosity of Perdue Farms and Allen Family Foods, and Wal-Mart, we are able to furnish our families with a complete meal for both Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Children & Families First, a private non-profit agency, strengthens families and communities by providing quality social, educational and mental health services. Services include parent education, workplace services, foster care, adoption, counseling, a teen residential treatment center, teen pregnancy prevention and infant mortality prevention programs. Services are provided out of our six offices located throughout Delaware as well as in homes, schools, and other community locations. In 2006, 31,901 individuals benefited from services. Children & Families First is a member of the National Alliance for Children & Families and the United Way of Delaware and is accredited by COA (Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children). Visit [www.cffde.org](http://www.cffde.org).

Thank you so much.

Maureen Leary  
Public Relations Specialist  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Children and Families First  
302-856-2388, ext. 160