



ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOMERVILLE, TENNESSEE

September 2011

MISSION COUNCIL NEWS

The Mission Council met on May 8th, June 19th and July 24th and discussed the following.

- **Mission Council Meetings** - The Mission Council's regularly scheduled meeting will now be held on the first Sunday of the month when there is Morning Prayer.
- **Advisory Committee Board** - Mary Ann Tomlinson and Cindy Matlock represent St. Thomas on the Advisory Committee Board. The Board is collecting toiletries, for released inmates and St. Thomas could contribute to this mission.
- **Building & Grounds** - Doyle Laird had built a cross holder, made from pieces of the old altar, that matches the Paschal candle holder. It's beautiful!
- **Budget** - The 2011 budget was been adopted. The minimum balance kept in the checking account was increased to pay regularly occurring bills and Diocesan obligations.
- **Altar Flowers** - An arrangement has been made with Home Town Flowers to do the altar flowers with Jim Wiles paying the cost. If someone wants to bring flowers the arrangement will be suspended for that Sunday. Flowers may also be paid for by others in memory of or in honor of someone. Let Jim Wiles know if you wish to bring flowers or have flowers placed on the altar.

Bishop of West Tennessee: The Right
Reverend Don Johnson
Senior Warden: Jim Wiles
Junior Warden: Doyle Laird

MISSION COUNCIL NEWS (Continued)

- **Prayer Books and Hymnals** - There is a need for 15 Books of Common Prayer and 15 Hymnals. Donations will be requested and the name of the person donating will be placed inside.
- **GreenFaith** - Jim Wiles will lead the effort to follow the GreenFaith program. St. Thomas is already doing a lot of the actions required. A Green Team has been formed.
- **Mission Council Membership** - Three terms (Jim Wiles, Mary Ann Tomlinson and Nancy Boatwright) will be expiring in January. Each will be recruiting a replacement.
- **Bishop's Sabbatical** - Bishop Johnson will be going on sabbatical in January through Easter 2012. Donations are requested to fund it. See article elsewhere in this newsletter.

PRAYER LIST

The prayer list is updated at the first of the month. To add, make a correction, or remove someone from the prayer list please contact Deborah McCarty at rmccarty01@netzero.com or 901-466-1952.

The Diocese of West Tennessee has launched a new website. Check it out at www.episwtn.org!

Visit the St. Thomas website @ www.stthomassomerville.org.



BISHOP'S SABBATICAL

From a letter from the Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee

Our Bishop, The Right Reverend Don E. Johnson, has faithfully served our Diocese for over ten years, and has served in ordained ministry in the various dioceses of Tennessee for over 35 years. In that long and varied ministry among us, he has never taken a sabbatical from ordained ministry. We, the Standing Committee and the 30th Annual Diocesan Convention, strongly and unanimously support our Bishop in taking this much needed time to rest from his many labors.

Beginning in January through Easter 2012, the Bishop and Jeannie will take time to rest and renew themselves. Our hope is to find a wide variety of ways to support them in this quiet and restful time. Our greatest concern is to find ways to insure that the Bishop and Jeannie have the financial means to enjoy this sabbatical. Their goal is to spend some time in Tuscany, Italy, in reflection and retreat. To help them, we have created a purse and are inviting everyone in our Diocese to support them. Please consider giving in honor of their ten years of extraordinary service to us as a Diocese.

Make checks payable to:

Bishop Johnson Sabbatical Purse
c/o The Diocese of West Tennessee
692 Poplar Avenue
Memphis, TN 38105

Please keep Bishop Johnson and Jeannie in your thoughts and prayers as they prepare for this sacred time of rest and renewal.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

There are a lot of birthdays to celebrate. *Happy Belated Birthday* to those that were missed over the summer:

David Christian, Robert McGowan, Agnes Stark, Amy Coolidge, Jan Jaeger, Martha Boyd, Molly McCarley, Marlin Mosby, Katy Skinner, Mary Ann Tomlinson, Barbara Seawright, Robert Hines, Terry Pollan and Deborah McCarty

And *Best Wishes* to those who have birthdays in September:

Marlin Mosby, Katy Skinner, Mary Ann Tomlinson, Paul Seawright, Robert Hines and Deborah McCarty

FOOD PANTRY YARD SALE

There's a yard sale fund raiser for the Moscow Food Pantry planned for Saturday, October 1st at Lagrange Presbyterian Church at 21450 Highway 57. The Food Pantry is seeking donations and volunteers. You can take donations to the Somerville United Methodist Church on Thursday Sept 29th from 4p.m. till 6p.m. Please plan to price your items when they are dropped off. Let Mike Jaeger or Paul Seawright know if you would like to volunteer or donate items.

VOTE FOR CHURCH NEWS' NEW NAME

There are lots of exciting things going on in the Diocese right now. A new website has been launched that's loaded with information and easier ways to stay informed (www.episwtn.org). In July, it was announced that, after many faithful years serving the needs of West Tennessee, the Diocesan publication, Church News, would be getting a fresh new look, too. Suggestions for a new name were asked for, and they rolled in from all over!

Now it's everyone's turn to help pick a new name. Visit <http://surveymonkey.com/s/wtname> to choose your favorite. Results will be announced in the October 2011 publication. The individual behind the winning name will receive a \$100 Visa gift card.

Any announcements, articles or items of interest for the newsletter should be sent to Nancy Boatwright at jehlnp@bellsouth.net or 1530 Hewlett Drive, Rossville, TN, 38066

ST. MARY'S WOMEN'S RETREAT

Reservations are now being taken for St. Elisabeth's (Bartlett) Annual Women's Fall Retreat. The Retreat will be held on Friday and Saturday, September 23rd and 24th, at St. Columba Conference Center. All women are invited. The cost of the retreat is \$35.00 which covers the overnight stay at Sanders Lodge and three meals. If you are unable to spend the night, you can still attend. Meals can be purchased separately, depending on your attendance plans, with Friday dinner \$7.00, Saturday breakfast \$5.00, and Saturday lunch \$8.00.

The retreat leader, Rev. Deacon Nancy O'Shea, will be using a movie, "In the Company of Strangers" from the book of the same title.

If you are interested in attending, or have questions, call Cathy Dunn at the St. Elisabeth's church office at 372-2753.

A PROPER BURIAL

While walking along the sidewalk in front of his church, a minister heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly made his collar wilt. Apparently, his 5-year-old son and his playmates had found a dead robin. Feeling that a proper burial should be performed, they had secured a small box and cotton batting, then dug a hole and made ready for the disposal of the deceased. The minister's son was chosen to say the appropriate prayers and with sonorous dignity intoned his version of what he thought his father always said: "Glory be unto the Father, and unto the Son, and into the hole he goes."



*Thanks to Jeanyne Rankin
for this cute story.*

THE MAGNETIC CHURCH

St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Jackson, TN, is sponsoring The Magnetic Church, a conference presented by Andrew D. Weeks that equips churches to help attract, welcome, and retain new members. The conference will be held on Friday evening, September 30th, and Saturday, October 1st. Registration fee is \$30 per person. Forms are available at Coleman Hall. For more information go to www.magnetic-church.com.

GREEN CORNER

Water Conservation at Home

Your clothes washer is the second largest water user in your home. Make sure you only run your washer when you have a full load, and save energy by washing clothes in cold water. If your washer is over 10 years old, replace it with an Energy Star™ rated front-loading washer and you'll use 50% less water and 30% less energy, saving upwards of \$135 on utility costs each year.

You can save water and money immediately by installing a low-flow, Water Sense certified showerhead rated at 2 gallons per minute or less. These showerheads, which cut water usage by 20%, are relatively inexpensive, easy to install, and can be purchased in many home improvement stores.

Faucet flow restrictors (also called aerators) reduce the flow of water from a faucet by at least 20% while maintaining the same water pressure. Aim for restrictors that achieve 1.5 gallons per minute (gpm) or less, and are EPA Water Sense certified.



From GreenFaith.org

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