



THE CANTERBURY CROSS

St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church, Morgantown, WV

September 2015

The Warden's Corner

by Grace Ayscue, Senior Warden

“Back to School” time falls right in the middle of “Ordinary Time” in the Church liturgical cycle. It is, for many of us, anything but ordinary. For families of students, teachers, and professors, this time of year marks a change as significant in our daily lives as the beginning of Advent or the turnover of the calendar on January 1. There is preparation, not only back-to-school shopping but also planning lessons, scheduling activities, altering bedtimes and wakeup times to fit school bus and class schedules.

And then it begins: children go back to school in a new grade, sometimes at a new school, and eventually perhaps off to college. Teachers and professors go back to a new set of students and sometimes also new schools or new courses.

Those who retired at the end of the previous academic year may experience this not-going-back time perhaps as both a gain and a loss. Parents, who send their youngest away to school enter the empty-nest period and, if they are not teachers themselves, begin a time of life no longer dominated by the academic calendar.

As with all times of transition and change, habits and patterns set at the beginning of the year can carry us through and set us up for success, or fail as good intentions are bowled over in the rush of events.

Although it is ordinary time, some things do change at church: Sunday School and Youth Church are beginning the new year as well. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to teach in the Summer Sunday School. Although many families go on vacation throughout the summer, the children who do come to church each week and their parents appreciate your being there for them.

Amy Robbins is leading the Sunday School in a new season, and Ann Claycomb has plans for the Youth Church this fall that I think the students will enjoy. Later in the fall we also have a new season of Becket Arts to look forward to and there will be special events to come.

Whether you find yourself returned to busy-ness this time of year or find yourself with time to spare, please consider that the St. Thomas à Becket still needs you. Thank you to all the people who regularly participate in the church's ministries both within our parish and in outreach.

If you are new to the parish or have been coming to services for a while and would like to get more involved, there are many ways to do that. There are several ways to assist with Sunday Services: Corey Farris schedules Ushers and Greeters; Deacon Al Prichard schedules Eucharistic Ministers,

Intercessors, and Readers for services; and Bob Acciavatti trains and schedules acolytes, both children and adults. Our Director of Music, Michael Ibrahim, would welcome new voices in the choir, which rehearses at 9:15 a.m. on Sundays and sings in the 10:30 service, as well as some special services. If you have other musical talents that you might share please talk to Michael as well.

After the 10:30 service and some 8:00 a.m. services, there is Coffee Hour. Please stay and talk to people. And if you enjoy Coffee Hour, please consider signing up yourself to host one Sunday by providing refreshments and cleaning up. There are still open Sundays on the schedule posted on the cabinet in the Parish Hall to the left of the window into the kitchen. If doing a Coffee Hour alone seems overwhelming, sign up with a friend. No need to go overboard -- coffee, juice, and cookies are fine.

There are many behind-the-scenes activities and committees at the church in need of new help from parishioners, from counting offerings to landscaping the grounds. If you would like to help but aren't sure how to get in touch with the right person, please ask me, another Vestry member, or Mother Julie.



Being in Relationship: The Church and You

by Vicki Iber, Stewardship Chair

How would we answer if we think about why we come to St Thomas à Becket? I expect everyone's answer would be different. There are no wrong reasons.

People often ask me what drew me to my husband and I don't have to think about it at all. We share, it's a reciprocal relationship. It isn't one-sided. A person's church relationship is much the same. If all that one does is come to church, sit, and leave --they're not really committed. They don't share in the ownership of the church.

When people participate; join committees, help with events, sponsor coffee hour, make offerings to the capital projects fund or the day-to-day running of the church, bring meals to someone in need, or send a note to someone to let them know they are thought of, there is an intense sharing in the life of the church. They are a part of a family and with any family, they may not agree with everyone, they may not even like everyone -- and that's ok. That's reality. However, we still love one another as Christ loves us and calls us to service.

As with any relationship, it can't be one-sided or they're missing out!

Parishioners Help at Heat in the Hills

by the Rev. Deacon Al Prichard

The inaugural Heat in the Hills Chili CookOff was held at Camp Muffly Saturday, August 22. Thanks to the involvement of many of our parishioners, the event went very well.

The initial planning meeting was held this past February with Jerrey Hoyt and Mike Mosser along with Al and Cheryl Prichard offering their support. We, and a handful of others, were asked to help with the planning since Empty Bowls Monongalia was designated as the non-profit organization to benefit from the proceeds generated by the cook-off. Soon Amy Robbins joined the planning group to organize and oversee the Kids Zone.

Quite a few others became involved as the event drew closer and were on hand as volunteers at Camp Muffly. The entire Robbins family could be found in the Kids Zone. Carolyn Zinn, Aurie Acciavatti, Ann Pahl, Matt Iber (who received special kudos from the volunteer coordinators for his extraordinary service), Michael Ibrahim, and Mother Julie helped out. Scott and Morgan Murdoch both served as chili judges and enjoyed every bite. In addition, many more parishioners supported the event by attending and paying for the privilege of sampling the chili.

While the Chili CookOff was not an official outreach project of St. Thomas à Becket, it is a great example of how our parish and its members find ways to be of service to the community. Our outreach efforts constitute a significant ministry and it seems that, in one way or another, every member of the parish becomes involved over the course of each year. I thank you for your willingness to be of service.

Another outreach effort that St. Thomas à Becket has offered both financial and volunteer support may be coming to an end. We have received word that the Vestry of Trinity Episcopal Church is ending the Saturday luncheon program. The church, however, will continue supporting the Monday through Friday Community Kitchen. Various groups and churches, including St. Thomas à Becket, have provided the Saturday meals. As you know, we have been offering meals the second Saturday of each month. The Outreach Committee will be evaluating this development and looking at what other possibilities there might be to help feed those who are food insecure.

Welcomed Isabella Hope Riley!



Congratulations to Scott and Patricia Riley on the birth of their daughter, Isabella at 5:31 a.m. on Sunday, August 23. She was 8 lbs 14 oz. and 21.5 inches.

Special Events Committee Makes Plans for Fall

The Special Events committee is gearing up for a busy fall! In September, we will have the **BBQ Chicken Parish Luncheon** on Sunday, **September 20** after the 10:30 a.m. service.

In October, as you may have seen from an email that went out recently, St. Thomas will be hosting a **Craft Fair** featuring crafts by parishioners. This will be Saturday, **October 24** from 9:00am - noon and will feature crafts such as quilts made by Marty French and Christmas crafts and baked goods made by the Claycomb family. Other parishioners who wish to participate in the sale are absolutely welcome! Please contact Ann Claycomb. The sale will be advertised publicly, so we hope to draw many people from the area in to peruse and purchase your items. Items will also be available for sale at the church on the 25th after both services.

Finally, the new **Becket Arts** season will also be starting this fall, please look out for upcoming details.

The next Special Events committee meeting will be held September 6, after the 10:30 service. If you have an idea, we welcome you to come and participate in our informal discussion.



*Join Bishop Klusmeyer for
The Second Annual
West Virginia Festival of Acolytes
Trinity Episcopal Church, Morgantown, WV
Saturday, September 19, 2015*

The Festival starts at 11:00 a.m. and ends with a Festival Eucharist starting at 3:00 p.m. Lunch, a choice of workshops, and time with our Bishop are included.

Acolytes of all ages are invited to vest, bring banners, crosses, and torches. Warning: Incense will be used at the service! That evening there will be a lock-in for all youth (middle and senior high) at Trinity which will end after the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday morning.

Cost: \$10.00 per person for the Festival (covers food). (Just bring the money on Saturday). Those staying for the lock-in are asked to contribute a free will offering of \$25.00.

Registration: email Sara Gunter by Wednesday, Sept. 16 SGunter@wvdiocese.org (To register: Name, adult or youth, dietary restrictions, coming just for the day or staying for the lock-in.) If you would like to help with the programming: please email the Rev. Mike Hadaway: hadaway@aol.com

St. Thomas Group Enjoys a Baseball Game

On Friday, August 28, over twenty parishioners of St. Thomas à Becket attended the West Virginia Black Bears baseball game at the new Monongalia County Ballpark located in the University Towne Center. The Black Bears played the Mahoning Valley.

Despite the Black Bears loss, everyone had good time watching the game and enjoying fireworks afterward. Our thanks to Amy Robbins for arranging the outing.



Pictured above is the St. Thomas à Becket "cheering section" for the West Virginia Black Bears.



Above left is a close-up of our St. Thomas group.



Above right is the West Virginia Black Bears Mascot.



Pictured (from left to right) enjoying the game are St. Thomas parishioners Lynn Harper, Lisa Holland, Carol Roberts Spears, and Roy Spears.



Pictured right showing their enthusiasm for the game are Madelyn Carver (left), Kate Robbins (center), and Samantha Carver (right)

A Reminder for Sundays:

To ensure we don't miss your question or note, please use the color-coded cards on the table in the Narthex.

The key is:

Mother Julie or Deacon Al - **White**

Linda Yost - **Pink**

Michael Ibrahim - **Green**

Amy Robbins - **Yellow**

Roberta Dean - **Orange**

A Very Special Note of Thanks:

Thank you to everyone who signed up for Kroger Community Rewards (formerly Kroger Cares), selected St. Thomas à Becket, and used their Kroger Card to shop. As direct result of the money we received over the last two years, we were able to replace our old (and no longer working) dishwasher.

Although the month of August and time to renew your card has past, you can still go online at www.kroger.com/communityrewards. Our number is **83386**. The money we get from this program is sure to come in handy in the future.

Join Us for our BBQ Chicken Luncheon Sunday, September 20, 2015



BBQ Chicken

Grilled Italian Sausage with bun
(Sautéed onions & peppers)

Grilled Summer Vegetables
(Cherry tomatoes, summer squash, zucchini, peas, peppers, etc.)

Orange Romaine Salad

Rolls

Assorted fruit cobblers

Lemonade

Coffee - Tea

Adults \$10.00 each
Children under 12 free

Proceeds benefit the St. Thomas à Becket Capital Projects Fund

Our Worship Schedule

The Rev. Julie B. Murdoch, Rector
The Rev. Dn. Al Prichard



Sunday

8:00 a.m. (Rite I, spoken)

10:30 a.m. (Rite II, with music)

Nursery care and Sunday School with children's worship are offered during the 10:30 a.m. service.

Tuesday - Saturday

Morning Prayer, 8:30 a.m. *(except in the Rector's absence)*

Wednesday

Holy Eucharist, 12:00 noon (Chapel)

Please contact us at

St. Thomas à Becket Episcopal Church

75 Old Cheat Road

Morgantown, WV 26508

304 296-0270 (emergencies: 304-282-4241)



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Morgantown, WV

26508





September 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Parlor Rsvd for Examining Chaplains 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	2	3	4	5 Centering Prayer 9 a.m. Chapel
6 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir 10:30 a.m. Rite II Sunday Sch. / Youth Ch. Special Events Comm Mtg	7 Labor Day Church Office Closed	8	9 Noon Eucharist in Chapel SRSH Backpack Feeding Program 1 p.m.	10 Vestry Mtg. 7 p.m.	11	12 Habitat for Humanity Build on Faith Prepare Lunch 10-11:30 a.m. Deliver/Serve Lunch 11:30a.m. - 1p.m.
13 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir Outreach Comm. Mtg 10:30 a.m. Rite II Sunday Sch. / Youth Ch. Finance Comm. Mtg. Spiritual Parenting Mtg.	14 <i>"Coconuts" Group</i> 10 -11:30 a.m.	15	16 Noon Eucharist in Chapel	17	18	19 Centering Prayer 9 a.m. in Chapel
20 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir 9:30 a.m. Stewardship Comm. Mtg. 10:30 a.m. Rite II Sunday Sch. / Youth Ch. PARISH LUNCHEON (Chicken BBQ)	21 <i>"Coconuts" Group</i> 10 -11:30 a.m.	22	23 Noon Eucharist in Chapel	24 Women's Grief Support Group 6 p.m.	25	26 <i>Vestry Mutual Ministry Review</i>
27 8 a.m. Rite I 9:15 a.m. Becket Choir 10:30 a.m. Rite II Sunday Sch. / Youth Ch.	28 <i>"Coconuts" Group</i> 10 -11:30 a.m.	29	30 Noon Eucharist in Chapel			