

The Vicar's Message

Dear People of God:

In my last newsletter message, I spoke to you of the Episcopal Community that is being formed here at St. Francis and the "Rule" they are to follow, the Rule of St. Benedict. The book they are using is titled, *St. Benedict's Toolbox*. As I perused this book, I found this passage that I believe is important for all of us as Christians. It is titled, **Obedience and Our Baptismal Covenant:**

It's clear that there's a deep relationship between obedience and our Baptismal Covenant. The following three questions seem to relate most closely:

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

Will you seek and serve Christ in all Persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? (Book of Common Prayer, 304-5)

In obedience we turn away from the evil of placing ourselves at the center of the universe. As we listen to God present in Scripture and in all of life around us, we find opportunities to serve Christ in all persons and in all situations. We're free enough to respond to life with "the mind of Christ," setting our own agendas aside and following instead our Lord's way of justice and peace in whatever challenge or need is before us. Because we have opened our hearts in love, through obedience we can share God's love with those around us.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, have the mind of Christ, open your hearts to love and share God's love with those around us.

Yours in Christ,
Roy +

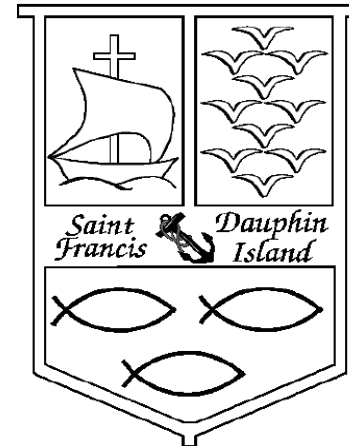
A note from the Vicar...

There will be a training session for Lay Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Guild members in the Nave @ 9:30 am, Oct 10, in lieu of Adult Sunday School

St. Francis Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 407
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Dauphin Island, AL 36528

Newsletter October 2010

St. Francis Episcopal Church



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The Rt. Rev. Philip M. Duncan, 11, Bishop
Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

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P.O. Box 407
Dauphin Island, AL 36528

Church Phone 861-2300
Vicar Phone 990-3596

Every Sunday
Adult Sunday School @ 9:30 AM
Children's Sunday School @ 9:30 AM
Church Service @ 10:30 AM
Nursery

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US!

ECW News

The ECW had its September meeting on Monday the 20th. There was excellent attendance and a very enthusiastic group firmly established their desire to have a strong ECW for St. Francis. They agreed to think hard and pray about stepping up to positions of leadership. They expressed the desire to have meeting every month throughout the year. Gail reported on all the charities the group supported last year. It was an impressive list. The group considered several requests for help this year and after much discussion the group substantially increased the monies in the account from which Gail pays for the charities that we support. In addition she was asked to set up a sub account especially to cover the monies needed by the children at the Dauphin Island School. Several donations have come in for this fund and the proceeds from the Save Our Gumbo sales have been dedicated to that account. Eugenia reported on a shopping trip that she and Lamona took to purchase clothes and shoes for the children. We have established good rapport with the school and they will let us know of needs they observe.

ECW voted to have a Fall Festival and sell food items as well as sponsor the yard sale like we had last year that was so successful. Be listening for dates to help with cooking. Martha Mayson will be Chairman of the Event to be held on November 13. Wimberly will be Food Chairman and Pamela Felice volunteered to be Publicity Chairman. We need every member to help with this event. This will provide the funds to do the things we want to do to assist our community.

There will be a covered dish supper on Friday night (so the Saturday ballgames won't be a problem) October 22. Mark that on your calendar and please plan to attend. We have such a good times with lots of food and fellowship. Bring a dish and invite your friends.

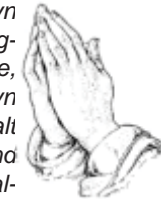
Julia announced that Sarah Phillips will be coming every Thursday afternoon in October to have Bible Study for Everyone! She also announced a program to be held in Wilkins Hall with speakers and film presentations on Living With Dementia.

The next meeting will be October 11 with Mary Porter presiding. Please plan to come. Lots of work to do and lots of needs to address.

Lamona Lucas, Presiding

Remember in your Prayers:

Ross Havard, Glenn Foster, Caroline Hall, Clifford Kircus, Marolyn Hetty Cunning-John Cruse, Russell, Carolyn Jan Zirlott, Walt Todd Dorlan and Boone and
Caroline Hall, Clifford Greene, Helen Wilson, Frank Hawkins, Hap Myers, Marianne Allender, Betty Torbert, Hayes, Tillie Semple, those in our armed forces, especially Stanley Robinson.



Church News & Announcements

For those not able to be on Dauphin Island for Labor Day weekend, you missed a GORGEOUS weekend --- the breezes were cool, no bugs, clear blue skies and gin clear water! Houses were full to overflowing with family and guests – grills cranked up – on Saturday night the TVs were turned to football!!! Happily, Auburn, South Alabama and Alabama all ended up in the WIN column -- now isn't that a great way to begin the season? Sorry to say but my Atlanta Braves have fallen to pieces at the most important time!!! Do think the hopes of winning the World Series have faded almost totally away – oh well, Linda Percival's Phillies are right in there fighting all the way. Have you heard the cicadas singing? They are in symphony every night -- this is good sign of fall.

Hummingbirds are here for sure -- hope your feeders are out and full! It's dangerous to get between them and the feeders!

In mid-September, Dauphin Island was very busy on a gorgeous Saturday -- Cadillac Square was packed with Coastal Cleanup volunteers -- the beaches are actually very clean so their efforts were more focused on the marsh areas. Thank you to all who worked on this! Then our Green Park was the site of Dauphin Island's first Tea Party -- a large crowd gathered to hear patriotic songs and speeches. This is a marvelous location for future gatherings as the magnificent trees provide shade along with benches etc. Yes, it was proud day for our island. Then on the 25th, the rodeo site was the location for "Wings and Waves" -- just one of the many activities that Kathryn Carver is involved with -- this enthusiastic girl has sparked the Dauphin Island chamber to many ideas for drawing people to our island. Remember the successful Gumbo Cook-off this spring? Kathryn is a tireless and imaginative worker for us! Thank You!!!

St. Francis is sporting grand new parking areas!!!! They are just so very nice ---white crushed rock on a solid base, concrete bumpers, all right next to our even and flat new sidewalk -- the added spaces are a real blessing! The back parking area has also been redone --- the new parking gives St. Francis a clean, finished look! Just think--no more stepping out of our cars into a mud puddle! Can't wait for all of you to see it! We are not just all about the "seeing" but also 'hearing"! Our own Mack Russell is now the official bell ringer!!! He is very conscientious about his job and we can now look forward to hearing our wonderful bell calling us to worship on Sunday mornings!

Was it ever great to see Ruth (Lane) and husband Jim Massengill when they were here to wish Wimberly a Happy Birthday! This happy couple just radiates happiness and joy! We miss Ruth so much but are so very happy for them! Also I had a call from Linda Griswold --- we'll be seeing Linda and Dan sometime in November.

I only wish that all of you could have heard Jim Early's moving description of his participation in the south Alabama Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.... he described it as one of the most memorable

experiences of his life. The wonderful World War II vets gathered at an armory at 6:00 a.m. on the 23rd, boarded buses for a "thrilling ride" to the airport -- police escort, sirens blaring, no red light stops for these brave souls - boarded a charter plane, arriving at the Memorial Mall in our capitol on a gorgeous day. There was a "guardian" (Gov. Riley served as a guardian) for every three vets so no need went unmet. Jim's most favorite monument was seeing the World War II memorial which opened in 2004. He says one has to see it to believe it -- magnificently moving and a breathtaking remembrance to our vets. After touring all of the monuments, the visit ended with a visit to Arlington Cemetery. Alabama Senator Shelby and Congressman Bonner joined the group as wreaths were laid honoring the group from Mobile, and to witness the moving "changing of the guard." Then as the plane returned to the Mobile airport, Jim said the group was met by a totally jammed, packed airport -- people waiting to welcome and thank these vets....Azalea Trail maids, Boy Scout troops, friends, families, school children -- As the vets paraded the length of terminal, family members joined them, bands played, the crowd waved flags, shouted thank yous, cheering these courageous men! Each vet was presented a packet containing letters of appreciation from students, pictures of the group etc. As Jim summed this up --one of the most memorable times of his life was coming home at the end of the war to see his 7month old daughter, Ann (Hefferman) for the first time and then to be able to have Anne walk with him in the procession at the airport closed that circle of love for father and daughter.. Ann had arranged for Jim to make this flight -- very very special! As an aside, George Edgar and Ed Johnson have both made these Honor Flights and were equally impressed and moved. Aren't we so blessed to have these three men a part of St. Francis Church?

Okay!!! We ARE going to make gumbo!!!! Mark those calendars for the first week of November --

We need to get busy --bake sale, casseroles, pickles---St. Francis kitchen is going to be humming ---anything you can do to help is more than appreciated! (Dates announced later!) Also cooking were Mel and his gang on the last weekend -- these breakfasts together are not only delicious but fun! Thank you Cooks!!!

Thank you, God! For sending the much needed rain on the 25th! And just to top things off, He also sent a glorious double rainbow!!! According to the weatherman, He is also sending some cooler temps our way!!! Thank you!!! Loving signs of God's love and blessings to us! martha

Bible Study Group on Thursdays in October

Please join us for a Bible study each Thursday in October from 1:00 until 2:00 pm in Wilkins Hall. The study will be led by Sara Phillips and will focus on the teachings and parables of Jesus within their original Middle Eastern context. We will look most closely at those passages that teach of salvation before the Passion of the Lord Jesus.

Sundays October	
Adult Sunday School @ 9:30 am Children's Sunday School @ 9:30 am Choir Practice @ 9:45 am Holy Eucharist Rite II @ 10:30 am 1st Lesson - Linda Percival 2nd Lesson - Blanche Emerson Ushers - Walt & Marcia Hayes Refreshments - Theo Hawkins	3
Training Session @ 9:30 in the Nave Children's Sunday School @ 9:30 am Choir Practice @ 9:45 am Holy Eucharist Rite II @ 10:30 am 1st Lesson - Linda Miller 2nd Lesson - Lamona Lucas Ushers - Mack & Joy Russell Refreshments - Lamona Lucas Vestry Meeting @ 11:45 Blessing of the Animals @ 12:00	10
Adult Sunday School @ 9:30 am Children's Sunday School @ 9:30 am Choir Practice @ 9:45 am Holy Eucharist Rite II @ 10:30 am 1st Lesson - Cindy Smith 2nd Lesson - Chris Ashcraft Ushers - Bob & Cindy Smith Refreshments - Ann Dowling	17
Adult Sunday School @ 9:30 am Children's Sunday School @ 9:30 am Choir Practice @ 9:45 am Holy Eucharist Rite II @ 10:30 am 1st Lesson - Julia Willis 2nd Lesson - Martha Mayson Ushers - Donna & McCune Dudley Refreshments - Martha Mayson	24
Men's Breakfast @ 9:00 am Children's Sunday School @ 9:30 am Choir Practice @ 9:45 am Holy Eucharist Rite II @ 10:30 am 1st Lesson - John Porter 2nd Lesson - Mary Porter Ushers - Mel & Lamona Lucas Refreshments - Jean Clark	31

Wednesday Evening Prayer Service @ 5:00pm Litany for the Gulf oil Crisis

Oct. 6 - Martha Mayson
 Oct. 13 - Lamona Lucas
 Oct. 20 - Frank Hawkins
 Oct. 27 - Mary Porter

From the Vestry

The September Vestry meeting was held on September 12. Father Roy opened with prayer and the Vestry discussed the improvements in the parking and the new sidewalk. Mel thanked Julia and Paul for their hard work on this project. The front had been completed at the time of the meeting and plans were made at the meeting to also finish the parking in the back in the same manner. The concrete retainers have been placed along the side on Chaumont and the back has been finished. Thanks to Paul Opanowitz the backyard has been filled in and grass planted.

Mel has had the air conditioners all serviced and now the plans are to put a higher fence around all the air conditioners to screen them from view. Mel expressed his desire to complete the small projects that need to be addressed and then see if we can address the space needs. He again urged members to be thinking about the Sunday School room that we need.

Dana is going to ask the other churches to let her know of their members who might need our flowers when the altar flowers are not needed by our members.

Lamona reported that several of the ladies have begun study for The Episcopal Community and several others are considering it! Roy expressed his support for this effort. Lamona also reported that ECW was carrying out a project to assist the Dauphin Island School students with school uniforms and shoes. With Anne Elam's help they enabled the school to get weekend food for the students who need this. They are looking at many more needs since the families of the students have been so severely affected by the oil spill. They know they will need jackets and warm clothing. The Vestry urged us to assist the people on the Island before we reach out to other groups.

Gail reported that we have had more expenses this last month than receipts. She expects the budget to look better before the end of the year. She will be sending out information regarding our pledges real soon and reminded us that Stewardship Sunday is coming up and everyone needs to be reminded of their pledges.

It has been a busy month. I want to remind everyone of breakfast the last Sunday of each month. Come and bring along a friend or neighbor. Extend an invitation to St. Francis for any of our many activities or services. We welcome everyone.

Mel Lucas, Senior Warden

Dates to Remember:

Oct. 10 - Vestry Meeting @ 11:45 am
Blessing of the Animals @ 12:00
Oct. 11 - ECW Meeting @ 10:am
Oct. 22 - Covered Dish Supper @ 6:00pm
Oct. 31 - Men's Breakfast @ 9:00am