



Rejoice

118 N. Washington St. ✦ Alexandria, VA 22314
www.HistoricChristChurch.org ✦ November 2010

Pledge Sunday November 21

*'All things come
from you, O Lord...'*

By Janet Osborn, Stewardship Chair

Last month we launched our annual stewardship appeal with brochures and pledge cards mailed to the parish. Thank you to all who have already prayed and made this important commitment.

More than 80 ministries and programs thrive at Christ Church and through them, countless lives are touched by God's work and your ministry. Imagine what we could do if all of us were to make an initial pledge, increase a current pledge, or tithe the Biblical 10 percent. This stewardship—caring for our church community and ourselves by answering the call to give in response to what God has given us—is an expression of gratitude for all the gifts and blessings we have received.

Pledge Sunday is November 21. If you haven't turned in your pledge card yet, we invite you to have a Holy conversation, pray over it and decide how much you will return to God so that Christ Church can do more of His work in our world.

If you need a pledge card, contact Linda Dienno at ldienno@ccalex.org or 703-778-4928.

*Bring the tithes into the treasure ...
Put me to the proof, says the Lord of Hosts,
and see if I do not open windows in the sky
and pour a blessing on you as long as there is need.*

— Malachi 3:10



Twenty members of the Our Little Roses Committee traveled to Honduras this summer and worked with the girls to create two banners—one in English, the other in Spanish—celebrating the long partnership between Christ Church and OLR. The banners were designed by Joanne Newton and produced by the girls at OLR. The companion banner hangs at OLR.

Bread for the World's David Beckmann to Preach November 21

By Jack Wilmer

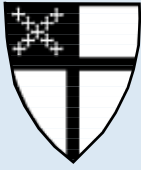
Leading anti-hunger and poverty advocate the Rev. David Beckmann, president of Bread for the World and 2010 World Food Prize laureate will be our guest preacher on Sunday, November 21, at the 9:00 AM service, and will present at a forum in the Auditorium at 10:15 AM.

David, a longtime member of Christ Church, is an economist and or-

continued on page 6

Thanksgiving Service with the Beth El Congregation

For years, the Christ Church and Beth El congregations have come together for a shared worship service on Thanksgiving morning. Historically, one congregation hosts the service, while the other provides the preacher. This year we continue this wonderful interfaith tradition at 10:00 AM at Beth El. (3830 Seminary Rd.) Please join us Thursday, November 25, as we give thanks.



Rejoice is the official monthly publication of Christ Church, Alexandria, Virginia, a parish in the Diocese of Virginia.

The Rt. Rev. Shannon Johnston
Thirteenth Bishop of Virginia

The Rt. Rev. David Colin Jones
Bishop Suffragan

Vestry

Liz Rudolph, Senior Warden
Brian Wommack, Junior Warden
Jim Totten, Treasurer
Jeff Dienno, Paula Dubberly,
Dorothy Friedlander, Elaine Ho,
Laura Humphrey, Ann McMurray,
Ridge Multop, Betsy Thompson,
Bob Thomson, Joe Walsh

Clergy

The Rev. Pierce W. Klemmt, Rector
The Rev. Ann Gillespie, Associate Rector
for Worship & Pastoral Care

The Rev. Erika Takacs
Associate Rector for
Faith Formation & Evangelism

The Rt. Rev. Jane Holmes Dixon,
Director of Foundations for
Spiritual Leadership

The Rev. Dr. Diane G. Murphy,
Priest Associate
M. Jason Abel,
Director of Music

Clergy Residents

As a teaching congregation, Christ Church offers experience in ministry and mentoring, as well as support by its members in developing the spiritual leadership of these residents:

The Rev. Nick Myers
The Rev. Justi Schunior

Seminarian

Melanie Mullen

Christ Church embodies God's unbounded love by embracing, liberating, and empowering people, whoever they are and wherever they find themselves on their journeys of faith.



Music director Jason Abel, Barbara Carmichael, and Joel Martenson stand together following October's Evensong. Barbara's son Gregory, a beloved member of the choir, was remembered with a special memorial anthem at that service.

**A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
December 5, 5:00 PM**

The Fifth Annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols will be held on December 5. The combined choirs of Christ Church, along with a brass quintet, will participate in this service, which traces the history of human salvation through scripture and music. Leaders from the community will be our readers. A highlight of this year's service will be the premiere

of a newly commissioned Advent hymn by Ray Urwin. Doors will open for seating at 4:30 PM. Please arrive early as there usually is a large crowd for this service. A festive reception hosted by the Stewardship Committee will follow in the Auditorium. Please plan now to join us for what many consider to be a highlight of the Christmas season.



Christ Church youth help keep Fowler House clean and ready for ministry.

SAVE THE DATE
**Fowler House 10th
Anniversary Celebration**
*A celebration of our history
and our response to God's call
to create Fowler House and
all the ministries that have
flourished there.*

January 23, 2011

Following the
special 10:00 AM service.

*Don't miss this
historic event!*

WALK AND JOURNEY TOWARD PILGRIMAGE

By the Rev. Pierce Klemmt

When we welcome new people to Christ Church, we claim we are a church that embodies God's love, embracing all who come to us no matter where they find themselves on their journey of faith. Every faith walk is a journey to accept the gifts of God's love and forgiveness. And each journey, to distinguish it from travel, has elements of pilgrimage.

A tourist, for example, travels to go, and see, and take. By contrast, a pilgrim goes to offer and receive. A traveler/tourist makes excursions to see what's in it for me? A pilgrim voyages out packing spiritual clothing to befriend, understand, connect, and above all be open to new experiences that will reveal the beauty and imagination of God. Traveling as a pilgrim is less about entertainment and more about reorientation and spiritual guidance. And you always return with your spiritual compass readjusted.

Travel becomes spiritual food. You never come back the same.

This is what happens to each mission team we send out, whether they visit an Indian reservation, rural counties in Virginia, or encounter the heart-breaking challenges of our missions overseas. Advice for any pilgrim?

Simply start walking and stop thinking. Leave your brain at the door. Then as you pass all those doors that lead to your destination, unhinge your interior doors. Be open. Take delight in the vulnerability of travel, the unfamiliar, the uncertain. Expect to be uncomfortable. Tourists seek comfort at nearly any cost. Pilgrims inevitably encounter discomfort, disorientation, perhaps even being

lost. Pilgrims trust what is uncertain as a requirement for journey because they are not meant to leave home to be at home. Pilgrimage is discovering and connecting to the unknown as a sacred space to return changed.

Travel then becomes not so much being obedient to an itinerary as it is exploring thresholds that lead to transformation of how you see yourself within the human community. Pilgrimage's greatest insight is that you lose where you are in life because you come to understand you are outgrowing it.

Finally, pilgrimage is about availability: to yourself, your neighbor, and God. The lighter you travel, the more open you will be for God to find you available and open for transformation.



Pierce Klemmt sits in quiet reflection in the balcony before the October Evensong.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Last January during a special forum the Rev. Ann Gillespie shared that her life has been forever changed since her trip to the Holy Land. Ann left Jerusalem with a longing to return. In December, Ann's dream will come true. Ann is leading a group of 21 pilgrims who are enrolled at St. George's College, *Palestine of Jesus Course*, December 2-15. The group will study the three monastic faiths, engage with their Christian brothers and sisters, and experience the extreme beauty and daunting complexity of the region through worship and study of scripture in the land where Jesus walked. Please remember these hardy pilgrims in your prayers.



Ann Gillespie takes a water break during her last pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

The Tutu Institute
for
Prayer & Pilgrimage
Coming October 2011

Please plan to join us
on a pilgrimage to
South Africa to help
celebrate Archbishop
Desmond Tutu's
80th birthday!

www.tutuinstitute.org

New Neighbors—Still in Fowler House—Grows Stronger Through The Campagna Center

By Rawles Jones

A visitor to Fowler House on a weekday morning finds the place alive and abuzz with activity. Around in the classrooms, 148 adults from 62 foreign lands are studying and practicing the English language. In the rooms to the right of the stairs, their children laugh and play while the parents learn.

Since parishioner Jean Johnson founded this English as a Second Language (ESL) program more than a decade ago, more than 2,000 people have studied English at Christ Church. It's one of the most successful ESL programs in Northern Virginia, and there is always a waiting list for admission.

The program, which came to be called New Neighbors, has always kept a separate legal identity for raising funds through grants and other means. Christ Church has supported it from the start with free space, volunteer teachers, financial support, and in-kind support such as photocopying, and organizational expertise on the board of directors.

“Jean Johnson’s vision, imple-

mented by her dedicated work and that of teachers and board members and chairs like Ted Ellett, gives lasting benefits to these neighbors and their families,” says our rector Pierce Klemmt. “This is Christian outreach at its best.”

Effective September 1, 2010, New Neighbors is now a program of The Campagna Center and able to use their resources to strengthen its mission going forward. The look and feel of weekday mornings in Fowler House won't change. Christ Church's support continues as always. A new development is that members of the New Neighbors board have joined The Campagna Center Development Committee.

“This is the optimal way to maintain the vitality, strength, and efficiency of the program in the future,” says parishioner Bill Brierre, now a member of The Campagna Center Board of Directors. New Neighbors inherits “the management and fundraising expertise of our long-time friends at The Campagna Center, and a wonderful service to the community continues in Christ Church facilities with their guidance.”

Below and below left, New Neighbors students study and learn in classrooms in the Fowler House. Below right, Ted Ellett provides remarks at Jean Johnson's retirement. Jean is standing next to Ted.



An 11-Year-Old Sees the Work of the Mengo HIV/AIDS Clinic

By Betsy Thompson

For more than 25 years, Christ Church has worked with Mengo Hospital, in Kampala, Uganda through the Friends of Mengo Committee. Since 2007, Christ Church has helped support Mengo's HIV/AIDS clinic, working closely with its director, Dr. Edith Namulema. While the burden on HIV/AIDS is enormous, Christ Church's support is having an impact in this small, well-run clinic half a world away.

Rites of Passage

BAPTISM

- Henry Louis Seale, son of John Henry & Katherine Seale, grandson of William & Lucinda Seale

WEDDINGS

- Kathleen Marie Settle & Timothy Robert LaDonna
- Amanda Jennifer Becker & Matthew Scott Jorgenson
- Christina Lee Hum & Josef Michael Scarantino

DEATHS

- Mrs. Robert Baker
- Janet Broulik
- Jim Campbell
- Melissa Espinoza
- Dean Hackler
- Margaret Hurtes
- Holly Mason
- Matthieu
- Beverley McClinton
- Judith McNeill
- Robert McNicholas
- The Honorable Betty Southard Murphy



One of the beneficiaries of our support is Amos Mugadde. Eleven years ago Amos was born with HIV. In 2008, he developed a cataract in one eye, a side effect of the virus. Dr. Edith began talking to Amos' mother about having the cataract removed, but she resisted—she was afraid of the surgery and had no money to pay for it.

In 2009, when Amos developed a cataract in the other eye and became blind, his mother finally agreed to the surgery. Dr. Edith—a very resourceful woman—was able to make arrangements with the eye clinic at Mengo and pay for the surgery with money from her needy patient fund, which Christ Church helps sustain.

The operation was a success. Amos' sight was restored.

Dr. Edith was also able to get Amos fitted with glasses to correct his vision, and he returned to school. In April 2010, Amos wrote a letter of thanks:

I was blind but I got treatment from Mengo. I am very happy for your help. May God bless you. In blind I would not walk anywhere. When walking I will

knock [into things]. Blind is very bad.... In 2008 one eye was affected, then in 2009 the second eye got affected by it. Thanks for the help of Mengo and my mother. May God bless you! I am HIV positive. Thank you for the medicine. I am healthy now.

Amos is grateful for what Dr. Edith and the clinic have been able to do for him. Without their help he would have had no hope for the future. By working with Dr. Edith and Mengo's clinic, Christ Church is helping to provide hope to people affected by HIV and AIDS. "Whatever you did unto one of the least of these, you did unto me." —Matthew 25:45

See the Mengo Clinic November 28

During the 10:15 AM forum on November 28, members of our Mengo team will share a slide show and information about their mission trip last May. They also will give an update on work being done at the HIV/AIDS clinic. Photographer Susan Braun was on the trip and took lots of great pictures. The team was given full access to the clinic and made home visits with some of Mengo's pastoral care teams.

Touchdown for Mengo Hospital

The Friends of Mengo Committee thank all who participated in the ticket raffle for the Redskins-Eagles football game. Jay Hernly was the raffle winner. The \$1,000 raised will go to the Committee's ongoing support of the HIV/AIDS clinic at Mengo Hospital in Kampala, Uganda. To participate in the committee's work, or for more information, contact Betsy Thompson, cookthompson@gmail.com.

Give your Relationship a Boost

By Dr. Lynn Turner

ROME wasn't built in a day, and neither is a good relationship. Falling in love is the easy part. Love enchantment actually comes with its own chemical, which wears off over time. The skills for good communication and conflict resolution need to be taught just like career training.

Christ Church is offering a relationship skills training workshop Friday, January 15 (7–9:30 AM) and Saturday, January 16 (9:30 AM–1:30 PM). The course will be taught by Christ Church parishioner Lynn Turner, PhD, LCSW. The \$30 cost per couple is for a manual produced by the Practical Application of Intimate Relationship Skills (PAIRS) Foundation Ltd. Scholarship funds are available.

PAIRS teaches relationship skill in an open, accepting environment where each couple (or single) maintains their own privacy, and learns to relate in a new way. This course is excellent for couples at any stage of a relationship, or for singles who want to learn new ways to communicate and resolve conflict.

The workshop focuses on the skills

of relating and the underlying dynamics for sustaining intimacy. The classes take place in a group setting and the format is psycho-education. A typical session includes a lecture on a particular communication or conflict relationship skill, a demonstration of the skill, and practice time in pairs.

Participants learn that differences are natural in each partnership and can enhance rather than detract from relationships. Communication skills create a level playing field for partners who are unequal in ability to confront. The confronter learns to listen while the listener learns to have a voice. Couples are also taught skills to enhance trust and affection. Couples end the workshop feeling closer to each other and more aware of how to sustain a loving, connected relationship. Singles end the workshop feeling stronger in their ability to relate to others as well as to themselves.

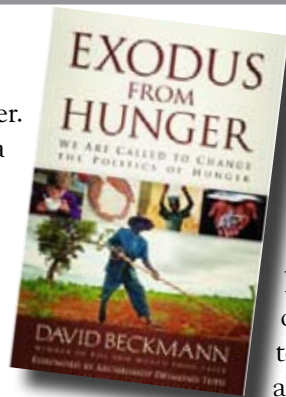
The workshop is fun and insightful with heartfelt exercises. Please join us.

To sign up, contact the Rev. Erika Takacs at etakacs@ccalex.org. For more information, contact Lynn Turner at drlynnmt@aol.com or 571-214-6042.

David Beckmann
continued from page 1

ained Lutheran minister. In June, he was named a 2010 World Food Prize laureate. The award, established in 1986 by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Norman Borlaug, is considered the Nobel Prize equivalent for food and agriculture. He was recognized for his achievements in building one of the "world's foremost grassroots organizations leading the charge to end hunger and poverty for millions of people around the world."

David's new book, *Exodus from Hunger*



Hunger: We Are Called to Change the Politics of Hunger, released in October, includes a foreword from Nobel Laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. By mobilizing people of faith, Bread for the World members and activists have been able to see their concerns translated into policies that help hungry and poor people improve their lives.

Please join us for this special occasion.



Samples of cards created by our Sunday school kindergarten class for Thanksgiving 2009.

Sunday School Supports Bread for the World

On Sunday, November 21, our Sunday school students will help support Bread for the World.

Older students will help sort donated food for Thanksgiving dinner distribution later in the week. Younger students will create gift bags or Thanksgiving cards and prayers for the families that will receive those dinners.

All of our Sunday school outreach events are led by Jane Knops in coordination with Michele Smith, and these activities are led and supported by the excellent work of our faithful Sunday school teachers.

If you would like more information about this event and how you can get involved, please contact the Rev. Erika Takacs at etakacs@ccalex.org. We would be happy to include you as our youngest disciples exercise their important ministries in this place.

Rejoice is a Christ Church publication. Carol Donlan gives her time and talent to edit *Rejoice*, Craig Keith provides design and layout, and Linda Dienno is the staff liaison.

Rejoice is published monthly. The *Rejoice* deadline is the third of the month preceding the publication.

Please send proposed articles to membership@ccalex.org. Those accepted are subject to editing for length and content.

GATHERING TIME

United Thank Offering Ingathering

Cindi Bartol, UTO coordinator

November—the gathering time. We anticipate the gatherings of family and friends even as our world orbits farther away from its natural warmth. We gather the last of the garden's offerings that have showered us so abundantly through the summer and savor this abundance both in flavor and yield. We renew, through gatherings that return us to our various communities after a leisure time, the connections that enrich our lives and we celebrate our excitement of return.

In other parts of our country and the hurting world, November comes to some just like any other month with the knowledge that there might not be enough to even survive until the next month and also with a prayer that someone who believes in the goodness of God's bounty might remember and have enough to share. Nothing is too large, no gift is too small to be received. This is the

place that stewards of your prayerful gifts will be able to respond to the life-giving places according to what you share. This is the reason for your daily prayerful thanks and a sacrifice of smallest indulgence to make plenty for the wider community of Christ.

The United Thank Offering of The Episcopal Church gathers offerings from churches and dioceses throughout our national church so that smallness becomes largeness—as individuals, we probably cannot make a large impact but collectively, through our ingatherings, we can be bold in our response. What cannot be done by one can often be achieved by many for the growth of all who participate—the giver and the one in needful prayer. We are called to pray daily, even unceasingly according to the scriptures, for our needs and the

needs of others and in thanksgiving for every blessing. The United Thank Offering also calls a response of putting coins into a Blue Box, available for your home use at the tables around our parish, each time we offer a prayer. We gather these offerings twice a year so that gifts from throughout the church may be disbursed to others.

We also gather collective offerings as checks or monetary gifts in the envelopes that are part of your offering envelope packets or in the pew. The Fall Ingathering at Christ Church will be at every service on November 14. Take time to reflect on the blessings you have received, large or small, challenges or gifts, and answer the prayer of someone you do not know but is known to God. You will be making a difference in someone else's life and, I hope, in your own.



FALL ALL-PARISH MEETING FINANCIAL UPDATE

Our rector and vestry strongly believe in sharing information on the financial health of the parish. This is the first of regular financial updates to be given.

At our fall all-parish meeting, treasurer Jim Totten provided an update, through August, on our financial health letting us know that contributions are down significantly over the past two years; yet we were cautiously optimistic.

Sadly, the trend Jim identified is continuing. At the end of September we are \$25,000 behind the same point-in-time last year and October too looks like it will be lower. Commitments to outreach, mission, music,

education, and the countless other endeavors of Christ Church continue, but may be compromised in future months as we struggle with fewer contributions.

As you prayerfully consider your own financial expression of thankfulness, know that whatever you offer to God through Christ Church will be cherished and shared in the most responsible and meaningful way.

Please look for future financial updates in *Parish Life* and *Rejoice*. If you have any questions about this information, please contact Treasurer Jim Totten at jltotten@aol.com or Senior Administrative Director Michelle Cox at mcox@ccalex.org.

September Offerings* 2010 v. 2009

September 2009 Offerings:
\$138,460 (Four Sundays)

September 2010 Offerings:
\$128,674 (Four Sundays)

Fiscal Year Offerings Recap

July 1 through September 30,
2009: \$420,256

July 1 through September 30,
2010: \$395,202

*Offerings mean pledge payments, undesignated plate offerings, and undesignated gifts from offering



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Worship Schedule

Sunday

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist

9:00 AM Holy Eucharist with Sermon & Choir

11:15 AM Holy Eucharist with Sermon & Choir

5:00 PM Holy Eucharist for Healing with Laying on of Hands
(except for first Sundays October through June)

Choral Evensong (first Sundays October through June)

Wednesday

In the Chapel (Parish House)

7:15 AM Holy Eucharist, Wednesday

12:05 PM Holy Eucharist & the Laying on of Hands for Healing

Interested in joining Christ Church?

Contact Membership Coordinator Suzanne Froman

at 703-778-4930 or sfroman@accalex.org

Website Redesign Update

Thank you to everyone who submitted suggestions for website vendors. We sent a request for proposals to 26 possible vendors, and received 14 proposals.

Most of the proposals recommended better site navigation, video sermons, a more vibrant appearance, a stronger gateway for newcomers, and social networking.

The 14 proposals have been studied by a group of parishioners, clergy, and staff. Representatives from the top proposals will meet the review group on November 16. A contract should be signed this month, and we expect to have a fresh website by early summer 2011.

If you have any interest in this exciting project, please contact Communication Committee Chair Carol Donlan at ckdonlan@verizon.net.

In thanksgiving for God's blessings and desiring to return a proportionate share, I/we intend to support this parish and the diocese, our work at home and throughout the world, as follows:

per week \$ _____

per month \$ _____

per quarter \$ _____

per year \$ _____

I would like information about including Christ Church in my will.

Come Share the Journey

Invitation to Generosity 2011

Mr. & Mrs. Mr. Mrs. Ms.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Office Phone _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Email _____

Office Email _____



Do you have automatic payroll deposit?
Would you like to have your pledge payment automatically deducted? If so, please contact the Controller at x114.
118 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-549-1450, Fax: 703-549-5883

VISA MC AmEx Discover

Name on card _____

Account Number _____

Expiration date _____

\$ _____ to be charged per month for a total of \$ _____ per year. Credit cards will be charged on the 15th of the month or the next business day.

Signature _____

FOR OFFICE USE:

Date received _____

Family number _____

Envelope number _____