



The Preparer

The Episcopal Church St. John the Baptist
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July/August 2011

Calling all children ages 3-12... "Godly Play Spoken Here"

What is Godly Play? It is a Montessori-based religious education approach for children ages 3 to 12 years old. The Rev. Jerome W. Berryman is the founder of Godly Play. He calls Godly Play, "my interpretation of Montessori religious education." Godly Play is a unique and imaginative approach to working with children. This method of teaching, supports, challenges, nourishes, and guides the child's spiritual development. In our Godly Play class, we enter into sacred bible stories, the mysteries of Christmas and Easter, parables, and sacred liturgy in order to discover God, ourselves, and each other. Through it our children learn the important stories of the Bible. It is Bible based.



We look forward to sharing Godly Play with your child! If you have any questions about this wonderful and awesome program, please call Peggy Diaz at 623-326-5299 or Kelly Sikes at 623-229-2626 or you can email us at peggydiaz@cox.net or ksikes@q.com.



**PLEASE JOIN US TO CELEBRATE
THE REV'D CANON FRANK CLARK'S
40TH ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY**

Saturday, September 10, 2011
7 pm – 9 pm



**The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist
4102 West Union Hills Drive, Glendale**

Bring hors d'oeuvres to share
Optional bottle of wine to share
Sign up sheet is in the Parish Hall

~ Highland attire optional ~
Nursery will be available 6:45 pm – 9:15

Fellow members of Christ's community,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve in ministry in this loving and welcoming church. Although I have only been here a short period of time, I have been made to feel at home and spiritually nourished. Father Clark, our Vestry, the Nominating Committee, Marnie Layne, and everyone else I have met have been giving and supportive. I pray that, with the Lord's help, the brotherly mentoring of Father Clark, and your continued prayers and support, together we will continue to grow and build the Body of Christ in His Holy House on the campus of St. John the Baptist, and in the community at large.

Some church mission values that I see as present here and that I pray to serve and enhance are:


- † **Service** – We are a servant community in imitation of Jesus' ministry; staying in touch with human need in the community and responding with hands-on social ministry; having a servant presence in the community; being a voice for social justice and peace.
- † **Caring** – Being a place where all are welcome and we care for each other; sharing celebrations and responding to pain and crises; having many opportunities for fellowship.
- † **Witnessing** – Regarding the Great Commission as the marching orders for the church; equipping each other to tell our God-stories; mobilizing ourselves to target the unchurched and have an evangelical impact on our community.
- † **Stewarding of treasures** – Strong emphasis on stewardship teaching and preaching, with a holistic approach to all facets of stewardship.
- † **Nurturing spiritual formation** – seeing the faith maturity of our members and guests as the source of congregational renewal and strength; using sacramental piety and Christian education to nurture faith development; focusing on the transformation of the individual as the means for changing society.

† **Healing and wholeness** – enabling members and guests to experience healing, the fruits of the Spirit, and the gifts of the Spirit for personal joy and in building the Body of Christ; being a therapeutic community offering support, healing and hope through Jesus Christ.

Bishop Stephen Neill once wrote: "The Church exists for mission as fire exists for burning." Thank you for the blessing of welcoming me to serve in this faithful community that is furthering Jesus' mission.

Your brother in
Christ,



1st Lt. Claudia Alday; PFC Charles Barker, Sgt. Lisa Beckett, Cpt. John M. Bergener; **PRAY FOR OUR** Cpl. Jeffrey Bolland,  Paul Brezinski, Lt. Col. **MILITARY** Stephen Brown, SSgt. John Burgess, SPC. Adam Chase, Sgt. Sean Cook, SPC Andrew C. Diaz, A1C Mary Ellen Ellis; Sgt. Daniel Franklin, 2nd Lt. Nathan Franklin, LCPL Ryan Gardner; PFC Christopher Gates; MA1 Bernadette M. Gaul, Dr. Tim Goodrich, Cpl. Michael Jacobs, Matthew Lees; Brian Long; LCPL Michael Matter; PFC James McElligott; SPC Brett McGillen, Lt. Col. Laurence W.G. McSheffrey, Lt. Col. Marion Moxley, Lt. Col. William Moxley, 2nd Lt. Evan Munson, Maj. Kim Nail, SSgt. Benjamin Nelson, LCpl. Nicholas Drew Michael Nobel; Brian Ragsdale, Chris Ragsdale, Nicholas Ragsdale, Maj. Steven Santamaria, PFC Michael Shoemaker; Sgt. Tim Stoner, Sgt. Jon Michael Stresing, P3 D. J. Tussing, Christopher VanSteeter, Sgt. Gerad Voltmer, Josh.

Staff Sergeant Ahmed Kousay Altaie
captured October 2006 (Iraq)
SPC E4 Bowe Robert Bergdahl
captured June 2009 (Afghanistan)

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Recently we received a gift of a stand for votive (prayer) candles in memory of Doris Mehok, wife of Frank Mehok. We are very thankful to Frank for this gift.

Let me tell you a story about the Bishop of Michigan, the Rt. Rev'd Richard S. M. Emirch, my bishop as I was growing up in Michigan. He was instrumental in my call to ordained ministry.

Theologically very orthodox, liturgically, he was very protestant. He was not a ritualist.

Bishop Emrich, a great theologian and teacher, took a sabbatical in England. He was dismayed to find the cathedrals to be places of tourism rather than houses of prayer. He wrote an open letter to the Church of England suggesting that the cathedrals install votive candles that people could light when they come to pray. This way others (tourists) who visit could see that these great cathedrals are not museums, but houses of prayer! When he returned home he took his own advice and had votive lights installed in St. Paul's Cathedral, Detroit.

There is nothing superstitious or mysterious about candles. We identify candles as signs of the Light of Christ in our lives. During the Great Vigil of Easter, we are led into the church with the Paschal Candle as the deacon proclaims, "The Light of Christ," just as the Israelites were led in the Exodus by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.

At baptism each newly baptized is presented with a candle lit from the Paschal Candle. We say, "Receive the Light of Christ, and be not ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified!"

When we come to the church to pray, we light a candle – a symbol of the Light of Christ in us. The light remains after we leave as a sign to others of the prayers that have been offered in that place.

When Bishop Emrich retired he made his church home at St. Christopher's, Sun City. He took a hand in the founding of All Saints in Sun City where the presider's chair was given in his honor.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Youth Group News



Calling all teens! MILC is open to all kids from 7th through 12th grade! We meet every Sunday at noon after the 10 am

service. We do fun things like dodge ball, parties, music while going deeper with God. MILC stands for Meeting in Love with Christ and that is exactly what we do! For more information email lynne@stjohnsaz.org or 602-400-6770.

YAY!!! The new school year has started and so has MILC!

Join us on August 28th at our new time 1200 noon (right after the 10 am service!). Our student leaders have planned some really great adventures for everyone and we will be celebrating our new school year and sharing some of the upcoming plans on the 28th!

September 4th -we will watch Soul Surfer, come enjoy popcorn, food, and bring your friends for an afternoon at the movies!

Sept 11th is a regular meeting. We will be looking at school and scripture and practicing for our dodge ball tournament!

Sept 18th is the Diocesan Dodge ball Tournament at All Saints! We will meet at St. John's at 2 pm and return to the church at 6:30 pm. You absolutely need your permission slips for this event! Bring your friends!!

September 25th - the guys and girls are splitting up for some gender fun! More information to come!

Lynne Gardner



9-11...A Decade Later

We encourage you to participate and attend commemorative events to help you on the path to healing. There are many different events being held in local communities - you may want to participate in one of those. Please refer to your local mayor's office for more information.

Attending 9-11 10th anniversary events gives the opportunity to honor those who were lost.

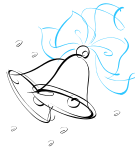
September Birthdays



- 2 Harry Way, Chase Long
- 6 Suzy Mortenson
- 7 Devon Jernigan
- 8 Jacki Waterman, Tyson Long
- 9 Christopher Dugan
- 10 Vera Tirrito
- 11 Martha Bisanar, Kate Kelsey,
Stephanie Sundberg
- 12 Mackenzie Kieborz
- 14 Courtney Segrest
- 15 Art Layne
- 16 Marion Nelson, Hal Nolde, Barry Pitt-Hart
- 17 Joyce Martin, Brian Waterman
- 18 Shannon Sipes
- 19 Aryiah Pastula
- 23 Joe Tirrito, Gabrielle Peterson
- 24 H.T. West, Kelsey Woodyard,
Jackson Beyries
- 25 Lydia Dobson
- 27 Don Abram, Kathy Myers
- 29 Cindie Lemm-Gyles, Esther Gutierrez,
Graham Burke
- 30 Cathie Kieborz

September Anniversaries

- 2 Merton & Dorothy Houdek
- 4 Joe & Esther Gutierrez
- 8 Joseph & Margi Maisto
- 20 Paul & Tina Rideout
- 25 Marion & Wanda Nelson



DOK Raffle

The Daughters of the King will be selling raffle tickets for 2 beautiful handmade quilts. These were lovingly stitched by Janet Lennon.

We will be selling raffle tickets, \$1 each or 6 for \$5 starting in September. We hope to raise enough funds to purchase bibles to put in our church pews along side our Book of Common Prayer books. Our DOK group put



together our Parish Cookbook last year and netted over \$500.00 which we donated to the Deacons Discretionary Fund. Hopefully, we will have more of the cookbooks available for those that missed our sale last year. They make great gifts for Christmas and other occasions.

Buy Quality Food for Half-Price



Angel Food ministries is providing standard boxes of quality food worth \$65 for only \$30. They also have pre-made food packages to help Senior Citizens. There are no income requirements to participate in this valuable program. The closest location is Trinity United Methodist Church, 3104 W. Glendale. To order a box, call Pamela Hunt, 602-973-1276. For a menu, or to order online, go to:

<http://www.angelfoodministries.com/>

Do you have trouble staying asleep at night?

Try these steps to return to sleep. When you first wake up, stay in bed and listen to soft music or an audio book with the lights out. If you can't fall back asleep within 20 minutes, get out of bed and go to another room. Read or do another quiet activity until you feel sleepy enough to return to bed.

Mayo Clinic

CONVERGE-come together, unite, connect.



Join students around the world September 28, 2011, for See You at the PoleT, the Global Day of Student Prayer. Be a part of something much bigger than your own local campus-join the movement! Be encouraged, challenged, and blessed to experience what God is doing globally. Regardless of the church group or the school peer group you are apart of, gather with everyone and pray. Converge! The 2011 See You at the Pole theme verse is a promise from Scripture that is one of the most popular and quoted throughout history by believers.

Whenever two or three of you come together in my name, I am there with you. Matthew 18:20 CEV

This simple verse is a comforting and encouraging promise from Jesus Himself that helps us to know He is always with us. When we gather and agree together, placing Him first, He is there. And when God and His people converge for prayer, lives change!

There are many *See You at the PoleT* gatherings where dozens of students, sometimes even hundreds, gather to pray at their school flagpoles. Yet there are thousands of campuses where just a handful meet to pray. Regardless of number, God takes each situation seriously and promises to be in their midst. So, whether your school has a huge group that covers the front of the school or you have just two or three, there is power in each group.

What an amazing thought that on September 28, 2011, millions of people all over the world will be praying-each in their own language! God wants to hear your heart for your campus. So, will you join Him? Will you join your friends? Will you converge with your generation for a Global Day of Student Prayer?

For more information go to SYATP.com

**You Are
Invited
To Join!**



EFCU Mission: To enhance the financial lives of our members.

Membership Drive: October 2 ***St. John's will receive \$20 for each account opened.***

Episcopal FCU offers many free services and financial products:

Savings accounts, Free checking, Share Certificates, IRA's
Loans: Auto, VISA Credit Cards, Personal, Home Equity, RV
Online services: 25,000+ C-op ATMs, Free online banking, Free Bill Pay, Free eDeposits, Free eStatements

And Much More!

All you need is \$30 to open a savings account which includes a \$5 membership fee and a \$25 deposit to your account. Episcopal FCU will reward St. John's with \$20!!

Join on Sunday, October 2 or give Janet Kaiser at the Episcopal FCU a call @ 602-677-0162 to receive an application. At St. John's, contact Suzy Mortenson at 623-826-0481.

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**Newsletter articles for the October issue of The Preparer
must be submitted no later than 12 Noon Sunday, September 11th!**

newsletter@stjohnsaz.org

Labor Day



September 5, 2011