



Church of the Heavenly Rest, Episcopal

The Lay Reader

August 2009

All Things Come of Thee

I Chronicles 29:14

Rally Day Sunday, August 30

9:30-10:10a.m. **Enroll in your Sunday School Classroom and meet Teachers.** Adults will meet with your teachers and get an overview of your study.

10:10-10:35a.m. Refreshments in Bishop Garrett room and Library.

10:45a.m. **Holy Eucharist followed by Rally Day Ministry Fair and Lunch in the Parish Hall.** Parish Ministries will have booths around the room for you to find out about their ministries and hopefully find several in which to become involved.

Diane Stearns and the Young Adults will be in charge of table decorations and ministry table set ups.



Come meet our new Director of Christian Education, Jared Houze
(seen here with son, Simon)

Lunch will be hosted by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew and will be a catered meal from Belle's Chicken Diner consisting of Fried Chicken, Potato/Gravy, Green Beans, Rolls and Chocolate pie.

Donations of \$5.00 per person
or \$15.00 per family will be accepted.

Church School for all ages begins Sunday, September 6 at 9:30a.m.

Inside This Edition

**Events Calendar/Roster
Choir News
Meetings
Upcoming Events
Youth Activities**



Office Hours

**9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

E-Mail

chrepis@sbcglobal.net

Web Page

chrabilene.com

ALL THINGS COME OF THEE

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Adult Christian Education
Books & Bible
Canterbury College Group
Centering Prayer Group
EFM - Education for Ministry
EYC - Episcopal Youth Club
Godly Play
Inquirer's Class
J2A -- Journey to Adulthood
JEYP's - Junior Episcopal Young People
Wednesday Evening Parish Bible Study
Rite 13
St. Margaret's Guild
Vacation Bible School
Thursday Bible Study & Prayer Group
Young Adults Group

MUSIC MINISTRY

Adult Choir
Canterbury Bells
Heavenly Instrumental Society
Junior Choir
Westminster Bells

THRIFT HOUSE THANKS YOU!

BETTIANNE BOWEN has served on the front desk, in the back room, and as a Sales Recorder. She volunteered at Thrift House for THIRTY YEARS and has recently retired due to ill-health.

MOZELLE GRAY, Sales Recorder for years, has also had to retire because of ill-health. THRIFT HOUSE thanks these ladies for their dedication and support.

NOW, it may be YOUR TURN to volunteer at Thrift House, 761 Walnut. The air conditioning works very well and it is a pleasant place to spend a few hours a week or a month. Please telephone Colleen 672-3812 and let her know when you can help. You will be glad you called!



WORSHIP SERVERS

Acolytes
Altar Guild
Eucharistic Ministers
Eucharistic Visitors
Greeters
Lectors
Oblation Bearers
Ushers
Worship Leaders

OUTREACH

BOB's - Breakfast on Beech Street
Food Pantry
Hands-on Outreach
Hospital/Nursing Home Visitation
Sears Nursing Home Worship
Soup Sisters
St. John's Episcopal School
Thrift House

PRAYER GROUPS

Daughters of the King
Prayer Shawl Ministry
Prayer Chain

PARISH SUPPORT

Brotherhood of St. Andrew
Caregivers Support Group
Church Web Site
ECW - Episcopal Church Women
Euchristic Visitation Scheduling
Furnishings Committee
Grounds Committee
Office Volunteers
St. Martha's Guild



Come Kick Off the Fall Season with swimming and Dru's famous hamburgers!

Our annual youth party will be on August 30th from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.

Regular JEYPS & EYC meetings at the church will begin September 9.

5:00pm JEYPS
6:00pm Youth Supper
6:30pm EYC

STEWARDSHIP TRAINING

The Vestry and Stewardship Committee Team will have a training session on Tuesday, August 25 from 6:30-8:30pm in the Parish Hall.



SUMMER CHOIR continues to meet in the choir room to go over the hymns each Sunday through August 16. The summer choir is made up of children, adults and anyone who would like to come on Sunday at 10:20 a.m. to learn the hymns. Bring the whole family.

PLAN NOW TO REGISTER FOR A CHOIR THIS YEAR. Go to bratton27@sbcglobal.net to register in one of our Parish Choirs.

PARISH MUSIC SCHEDULE 2009-2010

Wednesday beginning September 2

Canterbury Bells	(Selected Adults)	6:45-7:30 p.m.*	Conrad Bratton, Director
Adult Choir		7:45-9:15 p.m.**	Conrad Bratton, Director

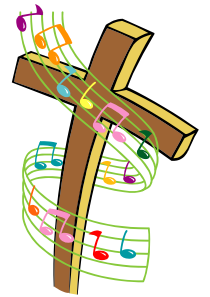
Sunday beginning September 9

Adult Choir Warm-up		10:20 a.m.*	
Junior Choir	(Grades 1-5)	10:30 a.m.	Return to worship at the peace
Westminster Bells	(Grades 6-12)	4:15-5:00 p.m.	Wes Gomer, Director

*Child Care Available **Child Care by reservation only

THE ADULT CHOIR RESUMES REHEARSAL on Wednesday, August 19 at 6:30 p.m. for Refreshment and 7:45 p.m. for Rehearsal. On Wednesday, August 26, rehearsal will be at 7:45 p.m.

ADULT CHOIR AND CANTERBURY BELLS and their families will have a **BBQ party** at the home of Annabel House, 3433 S. Willis at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 9. If you want to swim bring a towel. Reservations at cbratton27@sbcglobal.net by Wednesday, September 5.



GUEST MUSICIAN - You will not want to miss the 10:45 a.m. service on Sunday, August 9. We will have Rob Alley, Trumpet player and son of Kay Gillette as our guest musician. For those who have not heard Rob in the past, you are in for a special treat!

HAVE YOU PROVIDED THE CHURCH WITH AN EMAIL ADDRESS?

In an effort toward good stewardship, the parish office and many of our ministries and committees have been using email first instead of sending post cards to announce meetings. Those few who require written notice continue to be contacted by mail from our office. Notices are sent by email when the colored copy of the newsletter has been posted to the church website and we send reminders for special events. Please be sure we have your correct email address by sending an email to r2deulen@sbcglobal.net or cbratton27@sbcglobal.net. Thank you for helping us with the transition.

LAY READER ON-LINE starting in January, 2010

The Lay Reader, our monthly newsletter will only be available on line at www.chrabilene.com starting in January 2010. You can actually see it now by visiting our web page. You can read all the information and schedules on line, see photos in color and print yourself a colored copy of the pages you need. We will continue to mail the Lay Reader to those who do not have computer access or who request a hard copy.

A NOTE FROM THE INTERIM RECTOR

As you read this article the Episcopal Church will have completed its General Convention in Anaheim, California. Heavenly Rest was well represented by two Delegates to Convention and our former Rector and present Bishop Scott Mayer. Both our Mary Glover, our Associate Rector and Jackie Batjer served as Delegates to the House of Deputies and Scott Mayer served in the House of Bishops. If you have any questions or concerns about the work of General Convention please feel free to contact our delegates or I will be happy to talk with you.

We are fast approaching the end of summer. I hope your summer is a good one and I look forward to being with you as we prepare for our regular parish programs which will resume in late August. Rally Day will be on Sunday, August 30th. It will give us an opportunity to celebrate our calls to serve God through the work of Heavenly Rest and to learn of the various programs and opportunities we have to serve through this parish. The Faith Formation Program of Christian Education for all ages will begin on Sunday, September 6. Although that Sunday will be on Labor Day Weekend it has proven to be the best day to begin our regular programs.

We have had a good many visitors over the summer and have received many questions about our summer programs. We are now working on the development of a year around Faith Formation Program for all ages under the direction of Jared Houze and the Faith Formation Committee. We are also working on the development of a year around program of Stewardship Education under the direction of Lee Hampton and the Stewardship Committee. It will help us to see stewardship as a way of life and will assist us to celebrate the ways in which we can use our time, talent and treasure as responsible stewards of all that God has entrusted us both as individuals and as a parish.

You will notice new signage around the church. We hope that the new signs will assist visitors and members alike to better understand our parish buildings and to be able to better navigate them in search of classes, worship services, bathrooms, etc.

Because of the difficult economy we now face our outreach programs have seen a great deal more people in real need and are attempting to respond to that need. Thank you for all you do to help make our outreach programs a reality.

We are also reaching out to our neighborhood and in July had a neighborhood picnic for church members and our neighbors. Margaret Hollowell is working with the Outreach Committee to develop more effective outreach opportunities for the parish both in our neighborhood and beyond. We look forward to more opportunities to meet our neighbors and get to know them better.

Thank you so much for your support and participation in the ministries of the Church of the Heavenly Rest.

EIGHT YOUTH FROM ABILENE SCHOOL ATTEND HAPPY CAMP AT BISHOP QUARTERMAN CONFERENCE CENTER DURING JULY



Happy Campers attended a hayride and dinner at a dude ranch in addition to camp activities of yoga, outdoor games, swimming, art projects and more. Happy Camp & Promise Camp continue to be a major outreach of the diocese.



A FOND FAREWELL From the Pace Family

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the Church of the Heavenly Rest for your support and prayers as our family answers this call to move to Austin and begin the next phase in our lives together. It is difficult to put into words how much you have all meant to us as our faith and friendships have grown at Heavenly Rest. You have sustained us, encouraged us, and shared so much with us.

As some may already know, Robert will begin a three-year Master of Divinity program at the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest this September as he answers the call to the priesthood. He is excited to be back in the classroom as a student, and he is looking forward to being part of the seminary community.

Jill will be practicing school psychology in the Hays CISD, a suburb just to the south of Austin. She will be dividing her time between an elementary school and a middle school, and of course, a teenage daughter and seminary family life.

Catherine will begin her sophomore year at St. Andrew's Episcopal School. As with any teenager, she is struggling with leaving friends and a school that she loves, but she is excited about some of the different opportunities that she will have in Austin.

We are particularly grateful to the many parishioners at Heavenly Rest who encouraged us through our discernment process and have blessed us with your prayers and example. We will live in a seminary house, directly across the street from the seminary. We plan to be back in Abilene regularly to visit, but we would love to hear from folks at our home church. Our address is: 611 Rathervue Place, Austin, TX 78705. Email: robjillhome@yahoo.com. Our home phone number is 512-243-7692.

Love,
Robert, Jill, and Catherine

“WHY DO I NEED A WILL”

Without a will, you surrender the right to decide what ultimately becomes of all you own. State laws will determine who receives your property, without regard to your personal wishes. The results can be tragic for those you love. At the very least, failure to leave a valid will can mean unnecessary waste, delays, and frustration for your family.

If you do not have a will, or your will is out of date, contact an attorney today. A thoughtful estate plan will mean peace of mind for you and security for those who depend on you. Your will can also be a “testament to your highest ideals..a means of creating a gift of lasting value for future generations.

A message from Heavenly Rest Foundation

CALLING ALL REPORTERS



We are looking for enthusiastic people who want to write or contact others for news, reviews, and other articles and photos for our monthly newsletter, the Lay Reader, and for our Web site. We hope to have several people participate, long time members, youth, and those new to our parish. The more voices the better. If you do not wish to write, then bring a camera and take photos. Please contact

Sister Mary Francis in the parish office If you would like to participate or have questions.

RECTOR TRANSITION AT HEAVENLY REST
“What happens next?”

Beginning the last week in August, members of our parish will have the opportunity to participate in a parish assessment survey using an instrument called the *Church Assessment Tool*. This has been described as “like taking your church to a doctor, a travel agent, and a tailor. It gives leaders a readout on the health of the church, a sense of where members think the church should head in the future, and a description of the church as a unique body of people.” The information gathered from the survey will not only be helpful in preparing for our rector search and in helping our new priest understand where to start, but also for other strategic planning such as stewardship or capital campaigns.

The upcoming survey will provide an impartial opportunity for everyone to have input, and the results are completely confidential. It doesn't matter whether you are talkative or shy, young or old, a recent member or a longtime member. All views are equally respected in this process.

Specific information about the survey will be communicated over the next several weeks. Right now the goal is to make everyone aware that a survey will be taking place. The importance of participation in this process cannot be overemphasized.

Please continue to pray for God's guidance as we move forward in our process of choosing a new Rector.

CONGRATULATIONS BISHOP FAMILY



Catherine and Matt Bishop, our son and daughter-in-law, welcomed their new son, William Beckham Bishop, on July 14, 2009.

Scott and Jill Bishop, Grandparents



By the Grace of God

The Right Reverend C. Wallis Ohl, Jr.
Retired Bishop of Northwest Texas
Will Ordain

Michael Lee Caldwell

To the Sacred Priesthood in
Christ's One Holy Catholic and
Apostolic Church

Saturday the Eighth of August
Two Thousand and Nine
Eleven O'clock in the Morning

Trinity Episcopal Church
3401 Bellaire Drive South
Fort Worth, Texas

Your prayers and presence are requested
Clergy: Red Stoles **Reception to Follow**

NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS



An almost equal number of Heavenly Rest neighbors and members, estimated at about 80 people, showed up at Friendship Park July 7 for an opportunity to meet new friends and share a meal together. Margaret Hollowell, our Outreach Chairman, coordinated the neighborhood event with the help of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. Photos will be included in the August Lay Reader. Thanks to everyone for your participation.



CANCER SERVICES NETWORK will present ***Cooking for Your Health: Optimizing Nutrition for Cancer Patient*** at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 6, 2009 at **United Way of Abilene located at 240 Cypress**. Janet Basom, RD, LD, dietitian at the Joe Arrington Cancer Research Center in Lubbock, Texas and Jimmy Tomlin, owner and chef of Alley Cats will present this program from a dietitian's perspective as well as a chef's perspective. Jimmy will demonstrate recipes from *Eating Well Through Cancer* written by Holly Clegg and Gerald Miletello, M.D. This information will be helpful for cancer patients, cancer patient's family members, caregivers and for everyone wanting to learn how a proper diet may reduce the risk of developing certain cancers. No admission charge. Cancer Services Network is supported by the Outreach Committee.

A REFLECTION BY BISHOP MAYER
On the 2009 General Convention

Dear Friends,

One week before my consecration to the episcopate I was invited to the March meeting of the House of Bishops at Kanuga in North Carolina. At this meeting we were privileged to hear from arguably the most important Old Testament scholar of our time – Walter Brueggemann. Brueggemann possesses perhaps the most prophetic voice on the American religious scene of the past two decades; always preaching truth to power; always challenging “the empire.” He has a commanding voice and an equally commanding presence – imagine George C. Scott in the pulpit.

This current day prophet lead us through two Old Testament stories to demonstrate (surprisingly, considering the speaker) that there is a time in life for the prophet, and there is a time for the scribe. And he suggested that for the Episcopal Church it was time for the scribe. In other words, it is time to do theological work, rather than prophetic work; time, as he said, “to quit being prophetic at each other.” He even went so far as to suggest that it was “time to turn the volume down.” This “pedal to the metal” prophet – who, incidentally, does believe in full inclusion – suggested that it was time to “ease off the gas.” Even before the meeting at Kanuga, a number of bishops told of their experience at Lambeth, and how they learned at an even deeper level the importance and value of the Anglican Communion. Relationships between bishops from all over the globe were strengthened at Lambeth, and sentiment was growing that caution should be exercised at the meeting of General Convention in Anaheim.

So, given the Lambeth experience and Brueggemann’s remarks, I came away from Kanuga expecting that this General Convention would exercise restraint in crafting resolutions regarding human sexuality. And despite what the headlines say, I believe we did exercise restraint. A careful reading of the two resolutions shows that nothing was passed that was not in place already. As our Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies write together: “Nothing in the Resolution goes beyond what has already been provided under the Constitution and Canons for many years.” Nothing repeals the moratoria of the previous General Convention.

For the record, I voted for one resolution and against the other. It was my preference (and my vote) to discharge both, as I was concerned that these resolutions would cause confusion – which they have. Undoubtedly, dioceses will interpret these resolutions differently. Admittedly, the resolutions appear to take steps. Having said that, I am confident of the intent of the House of Bishops to craft compassionate resolutions which serve to describe our current reality.

These are challenging times for the Episcopal Church. As one resolution acknowledges, we “are not of one mind, and Christians of good conscience disagree about some of these matters.” I believe, along with Walter Brueggemann, that it is time for the scribe. I am hopeful that these resolutions provide space for such theological work. And, I remain proud to be part of a tradition which engages the difficult ethical challenges of our day with compassion and transparency.

Affectionately,
+Scott
July, 2009



August 3

Joe & Susan Crowder
Stephen & Rosemary Suttle
John & Molly Hill

August 4

Richard & Retha Wittie

August 6

Charles Lynn & Kathy Taylor

August 7

Lane & Candice Addison
David & Dian Bashford

August 9

Don & Maryana Harrell

August 10

Richard & Melissa Milliorn

August 11

John & Mary Koss

August 12

Laura Barber & Larry Ferrell

August 13

Glenn & Sue McWilliams

August 14

Jim & Weezie Fitzhugh

August 19

Patrick & Cynthia Gillespie

August 20

Jerry & Shelly Reed
Steve & Virginia Vaughn

August 21

Jimmy & Gretchen Herman

August 22

Conrad & Linda Bratton
Rick & Amy Edington
John & Nancy Estes

August 23

Sam & Geanna Cutbirth

August 25

John & Susan Shelton



August 1

Alex Beckham
Coletta Clermont
Drake Coleman
Audrea Grisham
Jim M. Skinner

August 3

Jody DePriest
Sue Ivey
Anne McDonald
Virginia Vaughn
Nica Wade
Hunter Williams

August 5

Sue McWilliams

August 6

Aron Bryan

August 8

Patty Collier

August 9

Roger Duck
William Perry

August 12

Sarah Carlson
Glen Funkey
Allen Heidebrecht
Jeremy Smith

August 13

Evelyn French
Pat Wright

August 14

Meredith Taylor
Susan Stowe

August 16

John Hill
Mel Layne

August 17

Patsy Lacy
Dan Lessing
Jim Rose
Michael Yburra

August 18

Mary Gerlach
Jonathan Bridges

August 19

Tiffany Holland
Kaitlyn Lillick
Diannne Morphew

August 20

Beverly Wallace

August 22

Alex Lindley

August 23

Eleanor Hoppe

August 25

Steven Sample

August 26

Jeannine Waters

August 27

Evelyn Bein
Al Smith
Tom Watson
Cord Yates

August 28

David Wright

August 29

John Koss
Sam Mehaffey

August 30

Rachel Anderson
Joe Wolaver

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please contact Conrad. Birthday Blessing is Sunday, August 2 at any service. Anniversary Blessing is on Sunday, August 9 at any service.

August

Morning Prayer is said each weekday at 8:00 a.m. in the Chapel

Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist*
- 10:20 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal*
- 10:20 a.m. Coffee Time*
- 10:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist*

3rd Tuesday Morning

- 6:30 a.m. Brotherhood of St. Andrew Morning Prayer

Wednesday Evening

- 5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Healing*
- 6:30p.m. Wednesday Evening Parish Bible Study

Thursday Noon

- 12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist

***Child Care Available**

see inside for new Fall Schedule

VISION STATEMENT

The Episcopal Church of the Heavenly Rest is a Christian community of faith rooted in the Anglican tradition. Empowered by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament, we seek to know the reconciling love of God and to share that love with others.

MISSION STATEMENT

As a community of faith centered in God through liturgy and Christian practice, the Episcopal Church of the Heavenly Rest exists to:

CARE for members of all ages and stages of life.

SHARE God's inclusive and healing love with all people.

CREATE opportunities to grow in Christ.

SERVE the church, the community and the world.

- The Rev. Dr. William B. Wright.....*Interim Rector*
- The Rev. Mary E. Glover.....*Associate Rector*
- The Rev. Jennifer Rowley.....*Deacon*
- The Rev. Arthur Goolsbee.....*Deacon*
- Conrad Bratton.....*Choirmaster & Parish Administrator*
- Jared Houze..... *Director of Christian Education*
- Dru Hall.....*Director of Youth Ministry*
- Sister Mary Francis, OSB.....*Communication Secretary*
- Mary Renfro.....*Financial Secretary*
- Dr. Wes Gomer.....*Parish Organist*
- Arnold Guerra.....*Sexton*
- Dorothy Guerra.....*Housekeeper*

**Church of the Heavenly Rest
602 Meander Street
Abilene, Texas 79602-1009
(325)677-2091 Fax (325)677-0358**

