

THE CURATE



Rector's Corner

Rector's Vacation

Beginning on Sunday afternoon, August 29, I will be taking a few days off and will be out of town. As always, I will be available by cell phone (903-714-7052). If you have an emergency of any sort, please don't hesitate to give me a call. In case you are curious about what I will be doing, here is the plan. Ann and I will be celebrating our 42nd anniversary on August 31, and we will be revisiting the site of our honeymoon, Las Vegas, for three days. Don't worry. I am not a gambler so I don't plan to try to retire the St. Philip's building fund debt or anything like that. We will then spend a couple of days in Dallas visiting family and watching our grandson's football game. Then on to Oxford, Mississippi for a long overdue visit with our son, John. We will also be able to see our granddaughter, Anna Katherine, who is a junior at Ole Miss. I will be back in the office on Wednesday, September 8. Services on Wednesday, September 1, and Sunday, September 5 will be Evening and Morning Prayer.

Rally Day, Sunday, September 12

At St. Philip's, I think that Rally Day has traditionally been the Sunday when Sunday School resumes after the summer break. Since we continued Adult Sunday School through the summer, Rally Day had completely slipped my mind until Martha Polasek asked me about the date for this issue of *The Curate*. I am glad that she asked, because I think that it is important to have a Sunday where we recharge our batteries. On September 12, we will have displays by some of our St. Philip's ministries in the

Parish Hall. During the Adult Christian Education hour at 8:45, there will be an informational presentation on our mission trip to Honduras - more on that in a moment. Following the 10:00 Holy Eucharist, there will be a covered dish lunch with fried chicken provided by the Church. Please bring a covered dish.

Honduras Mission Trip, Informational Meeting, Sunday, September 12 8:45 a.m.

I have agreed that St. Philip's will partner up with St. Luke's, Dallas for a mission trip to Seguatepeque, Honduras, on February 16 - February 23, 2011. Some of the St. Luke's leaders of the trip will be here on Rally Day at 8:45 to give us more information. Some of you have already indicated an interest in participating and certainly you should attend the meeting. This would also be an opportunity for those who haven't decided to get some idea of what the mission is all about. It is my understanding that there are three parts to the mission - medical, construction on a school, and Christian Education. Please plan on attending this meeting even if you can't go on the trip. It will give you some insight into real-world Christian mission.

New Christian Education study begins on Sunday, September 19 at 8:45 a.m.

The St. Philip's Adult Christian Education class will begin a study based on the Christian classic, *The Divine Conspiracy* on September 19. There are six lessons in this study, and each lesson has a 30-minute video presentation followed by some discussion. The author, Dallas Willard, who is considered by many to be one of the most brilliant Christian writers, is a professor of philosophy at the University of Southern

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Rector's Corner Continued

California. This book is considered to be one of the contemporary Christian classics.

In *The Divine Conspiracy*, Willard combines Biblical teaching, popular culture, science, scholarship, and spiritual practice into a book that shows the necessity for us to make profound changes in the way we view our lives and faith. For many people, Jesus is a beloved but very remote savior thus Willard argues very effectively for the relevance of God to every aspect of our existence. He captures the central message of Christ's teachings in a fresh way for today's seekers, and through this, helps us find a revolutionary way to experience God - as part of the here and now, rather than only as part of the hereafter.

Willard writes, "The most telling thing about the contemporary Christian is that he or she has no compelling sense that understanding of and conformity with the clear teachings of Christ is of any vital importance to their life and certainly not that it is any way essential...such obedience is regarded as just out of the question or impossible." He says that for most Christians, the primary function of Christianity is to gain admittance to heaven. In the book, Willard clearly shows that a faith that guarantees a satisfactory afterlife, yet has no impact on life in the here and now, is nothing more than "consumer Christianity" and "bumper sticker faith".

Willard encourages us to move away from the religion of "sin management" by exploring the true nature of the teachings of Jesus, who intended that His followers become His disciples. Jesus taught that we have access now to the life we are only too eager to relegate to the hereafter. Willard calls us into a more authentic faith and offers a practical plan for us to become more Christ-like. He challenges us to step aside from the all too common lukewarm faith and embrace the true meaning of Christian discipleship.

Please make plans to join me on Sunday mornings for this dynamic study.

Alpha (round 2) Introductory Dinner on Monday, September 20 at 6 p.m.

Started in London in 1979 as a brush-up course for rusty churchgoers, the Alpha Course has become a worldwide phenomenon and is now held in 163 countries. It is estimated that more than 13 million people worldwide have attended an Alpha Course. The Alpha Course comprises 15 sessions held over

10 weeks and is free and open to everyone. No question is out of bounds, and participants are free to say as much or as little as they wish as they make up their own minds about the teachings of Jesus. Spirited discussions often ensue on topics ranging from "Who is God?" and "Why am I here?" to "Why is there suffering?" and "Is God a delusion?"


Last June, 47 people completed the first Alpha course to be offered at St. Philip's. The meals were incredible as was the fellowship. Best of all, though, was the teaching. No matter what your spiritual temperature, Alpha is beneficial. I know from personal experience that it is possible to attend church for years and still not quite be able to put the salvation story together. As parents and grandparents, this course gives us the tools to tell the greatest story ever told to our children and grandchildren. If you have completed the Alpha course, please spread the word. And if not, please consider at least attending the no-obligation, introductory dinner. To make a reservation, please call the Church Office at 903-729-4214.

Yours in Christ,

Ted†

Sr. Warden's Report

Leo Mizell

reetings to all as we begin a new Fall season! Please mark your calendar and plan to join the St. Philip's Family for Rally Day on September 12. St. Luke's Dallas will present a special program on the mission trip to Honduras at 8:45 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Following the 10 a.m. service, we will have a Pot-Luck lunch in the Parish Hall, along with displays and information by the various church organizations.

The Fall Alpha course will begin on Monday September 20. Please encourage friends, acquaintances, or anyone else who would benefit from this course to attend. Information on the course is available in the church office or from Father Ted.

Let us all join together this season and the coming year to reach out in Christ's love and invite the people (whom the Holy Spirit has put on our hearts) to worship with us at St. Philip's, especially if the person(s) are not attending church regularly.

In our post communion prayer we say "And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of



Sr. Warden's Report Continued

Christ our Lord." Let us take this challenge to bring as many people as we can to know, love, and serve God at St. Philip's.

Jr. Warden's Report

Curt Winkler

Greetings, I hope everyone is staying cool in our record-breaking August heat! Please remember to turn off all lights and turn up AC units after every function. This will help us save money.

We appreciated the surprise 2 3/4" rain...thank you Lord! We never have a leaky roof unless it rains. It sounds silly but it's true! In the new vault, the exhaust vent or pipe from where the oven was moved leaks when it rains very hard. Leo and I are working on this together to get it resolved.

Adam Kent, our landscaper, is watering the lawn vigorously. Our grass seed is trying to come up. I hope that we will see good results soon.

Don't forget to invite people to Alpha. It was an amazing experience for Melissa, Bennett, and me. If everyone invited a friend or neighbor, think of what the outcome might be!
See you church, Curt

Treasurer's Report

Norwood Brenneke

	July	Year-to-Date
Beginning Balance	52,316.85	49,461.53
Total Income	15,747.62	135,851.57
Total Expenses	27,988.49	145,237.12
Ending Balance	40,075.98	40,075.98

St. Mary's Guild

St. Mary's Guild will have a display in the Parish Hall on Sunday, September 12 (Rally Day). We encourage everyone to attend church on Rally Day and take a look at what we have to offer. Our meetings are on the third Monday of every month at 6 p.m. We are studying the Psalms and Bob Beck is our teacher. We invite everyone to join us!



Altar Flowers

A long-celebrated tradition in the church has been a gift of altar flowers, which we give to the glory of God and in celebration of or in thanksgiving for our many blessings. We use two arrangements for St. Philip's altar. The cost of the two arrangements is \$100.

More than one donor may share Flower dates. Anyone wishing to give flowers may contact the flower chairperson, Francis Williams, at 903.729.5743 or the church office at 903.729.4214. Make out checks for altar flower donations to **St. Philip's Altar Flowers** and mail it to the church office.



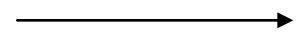
ECW



Katherin Wardlaw

The ECW is sponsoring the Pot-luck luncheon after the 10 a.m. service on Sunday September 12. Ladies, please volunteer to help serve food and refill glasses and "man" the kitchen. Leo Mizell and his "helpers" have graciously agreed to set up tables and chairs in advance of Rally Sunday. Joann Evans and family have volunteered to set tables and arrange centerpieces...additional volunteers are still needed.

We are asking each family to bring a dish...the church is providing fried chicken. The leader of each organization in our church who would like to display a booth, needs to bring a card table from home (because all the church tables are being used for the luncheon). Set up your card table/booth with information telling about your organization plus provide a sign-up sheet so those wanting to join your organization can sign their name.




ECW Continued

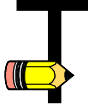
The first ECW meeting will be at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday September 14 (and 2nd Tuesday of each month). Linda Walton will be presenting a program on "Walking a Sacred Path". Beverly Beck is planning another one of her amazing devotionals.

We will be discussing plans for the Fall season with ideas reported from the officers meeting on August 26. The ECW donated \$1000 (as budgeted) to the Crisis Center. They were in great need of funds during the summer.

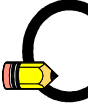
Altar Guild

 As most of you already know, Altar Guild Director Jay Dietz has moved to Dallas. Beverly Beck has graciously consented to replace her as Altar Guild Director. It has been nearly one year since our last Altar Guild training session. There will be a combined training session and wine and cheese social for all members of the Altar Guild on Thursday September 30 at 5:30 p.m. The training session will be in the Church and the wine and cheese (furnished by Fr. Ted) will be in the Parish Hall.

DOK

 The DOK will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday September 9. Fr. Ted will be leading our study on Richard Foster's book entitled *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home*.

Cursillo

 Cursillo #229, The Cursillo of Humility and Love, will be held at Camp Allen in the Conference Center beginning Thursday evening, August 26 and ending at the All Saints Chapel at 4 p.m. on Sunday August 29. Please support this team and the participants with your daily prayers and palanca. The dates for the upcoming Cursillos are:

November 11-14, 2010

February 3-6, 2011

June 16-19, 2011

August 25-28, 2011

November 3-6, 2011

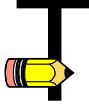
If anyone would like to attend an upcoming Cursillo, Please contact Martha Polasek or Jenny Cunningham.

A READING FROM MY UTMOST FOR HIS HIGHEST

By Oswald Chambers

The Way to Know

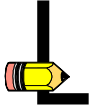
"If any man will do His will, he shall know of the Doctrine..." John 7:17

 The golden rule for understanding spiritually is not intellect, but obedience. If a man wants scientific knowledge, intellectual curiosity is his guide; but if he wants insight into what Jesus Christ teaches, he can only get it by obedience. If things look dark to me, then I may be sure there is something I will not do. Intellectual darkness comes through ignorance, spiritual darkness comes because of something I do not intend to obey.

No man ever receives a word from God without instantly being put to the test over it. We disobey and then wonder why we don't go on spiritually. 'If when you come to the altar,' said Jesus, 'there you remember your brother hath ought against you...don't say another word to Me, but first go and put that thing right.' The teaching of Jesus hits us where we live. We cannot stand as humbugs before Him for one second. He educates us down to the scruple. The Spirit of God unearths the spirit of self-vindication; He makes us sensitive to things we never thought of before.

When Jesus brings a thing home by His word, don't shirk it. If you do, you will become a religious humbug. Watch the things you shrug your shoulders over, and you will know why you do not go on spiritually. *First go* - at the risk of being thought fanatical, you must obey what God tells you.

WALKING A SACRED PATH

 Linda Walton will be presenting a program on Labyrinths Tuesday September 14 at the ECW meeting.

Labyrinths have been known to the human race for over 4,000 years and can be found in almost every religious tradition around the world. The primary focus of the program is on the Christian labyrinth and its use as a spiritual and prayer tool.

I am sure Linda's program will be very interesting, helpful, and thought provoking.

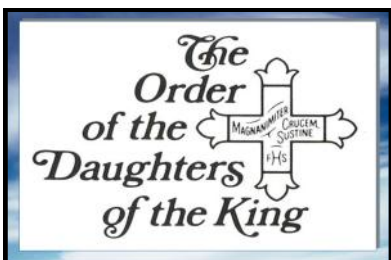
IT'S RALLY DAY TIME AGAIN !

A covered dish luncheon is one of the exciting events planned for Rally Day on September 12. The luncheon will follow the 10 a.m. service.

The Church is providing fried chicken for the luncheon, and every family is asked to provide their favorite covered dish(es) to accompany the chicken, i.e. salad, veggies, dessert, and any other family specialties. Because Episcopal women are reputed to be the finest cooks on earth, this is the perfect time to display those culinary skills.

We also need people to volunteer to serve, monitor the tables, and to do kitchen duty. Contact Linda Walton if you would like to help. Your assistance is highly valued and needed.

The volunteers will be assisting Leo Mizell in setting up tables and chairs on Friday September 10. Contact Leo at 903.729.1433. Let's welcome Fall by breaking bread with our fellow parishioners.



ECW



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY





SEPTEMBER 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9a Staff Mtg. 10a Bible Study 5:30p Evening Prayer 6:30p Choir	2	3 8:00a <i>Men's Cursillo Group</i>	4
5 7:30a Morning Prayer 10a Morning Prayer	6 6p OT Study Labor Day Office Closed	7 5:30p <i>Women's Cursillo Group</i>	8 9 a Staff Mtg. 10a Bible Study 5:30p Euch/Heal 6:30p Choir	9 5:30p DOK	10 8:00a <i>Men's Cursillo Group</i>	11
12 7:30a Euch Rite I 8:45a Honduras trip information 10a Euch Rite II RALLY DAY	13 6p OT Study	14 9:30a ECW 5:30p <i>Women's Cursillo Group</i> 6p Vestry Mtg.	15 9a Staff Mtg. 10a Bible Study 5:30p Euch/Heal 6:30p Choir	16	17 8:00a <i>Men's Cursillo Group</i>	28
19 7:30a Euch Rite I 8:45a Christian Ed Study 10a Euch Rite II	20 6 p Alpha Begins 6p OT Study St. Mary's Guild	21 5:30p <i>Women's Cursillo Group</i>	22 9a Staff Mtg. 10a Bible Study 5:30p Euch/Heal 6:30p Choir	23	24 8:00a <i>Men's Cursillo Group</i>	25
26 7:30a Euch Rite I 8:45a Christian Ed Study 10a Euch Rite II	27 6 p Apha	28 5:30p <i>Women's Cursillo Group</i>	29 9a Staff Mtg. 10a Bible Study 5:30p Euch/Heal 6:30p Choir	30		

August 2010						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

October 2010						
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	28	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Charles Seagler | 28 Bart Norton |
| 5 Sara Minton | 30 Miranda Knippers |
| 5 Frances Hamilton | |
| 6 Howard Day | |
| 7 Tommy Davis | |
| 10 Rollin Smith | |
| 10 Carmen Blackwell | |
| 12 Marilee Rogers | |
| 13 David Sullivan | |
| 14 Edythe Watkins | |
| 14 Madeline Gierkey | |
| 23 Joy Rhodes | |
| 25 Inez Smith | |
| 25 Rosalyn Bennett | |
| 26 Kaki Rogers | |



CHURCH INFORMATION

St. Philip's Staff

Rector Ted Welty
 Church Administrator Kelan Eckerman
 Organist/Choirmaster Clarissa Delany
 Sexton Chris Rogers

Leo Mizell (Senior Warden)
 Curt Winkler (Junior Warden)
 Norwood Brenneke (Treasurer)
 Mark Davis (Vestry Clerk)
 Bob Blackwell Kay Chapman
 Frank George Sparky Kolstad
 Ann Royall Maffitt Martha Styner
 Charlie Nichols Albert Holmes

Parish Office Hours

Monday -Thursday 9a-5p

Friday 9a-12p

Closed Federal Holidays

Phone: 903-729-4214

Fax: 903-729-8691

Church Office email:

Priest: twelty4235@aol.com

Church kelan@stphilipepiscopalchurch.org

Administrator: stphilipsalastine@embarqmail.com

Website: stphilipepiscopalchurch.org

Curate: ma_polasek@earthlink.net

St. Philip's Episcopal Church

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