

THE BELL TOWER

September - 2010

The prophet Isaiah declared to God's people, "If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; then you shall take delight in the Lord." (Isaiah 58.12)

In the last of our four-part sermon series on "An Invitation to a Spiritual Life," we talked about the importance of having Sabbath time in our lives in order to nurture our spiritual nature. Isaiah says it very plainly, "*Do not trample the Sabbath.*" His words paint a clear picture of how we tend to get so busy with our daily lives, that we have no opportunity for quiet time with God. That potential quiet time is *trampled* by our haste to get to the next place or to do the next thing. And the result is that we become increasingly anxious and increasingly irritable and frantic, as we try to keep up with all of our commitments and responsibilities.

But Jesus shows us how important it is to get away, in order to connect with God and to reconnect with ourselves. He often removed himself from his followers to have time to nurture his relationship with the Father. And that is what we can do and should do. We must be intentional about finding the time for Sabbath moments in our lives. The fact is that we cannot become less anxious by trying to do more—by gritting our teeth and working even harder. We become less anxious by developing our inner spirit—by listening to our spiritual conscience and doing less; not more. And when we do that, we might find that being less anxious will allow us to be more efficient and ordered in our work.

Well known pastor and author, Henri Nouwen writes often about the importance of taking time every day to get away as Jesus did to listen for God's voice. He says this: "without solitude, it is virtually impossible to lead a spiritual life. Solitude begins with a time and place for God, and him alone. If we really believe not only that God exists but also that he is actively present in our lives – healing, teaching, and guiding – (then) we need to set aside a time and space to give him our undivided attention."¹

May God bless you and keep you always,
Fr. Paul+

¹ Henri J. M. Nouwen, [Making All Things New \(An Invitation to the Spiritual Life\)](#), HarperSanFrancisco, 1981



From Ella Anderson, Sr. Warden:

My daily devotional reading comes from a little booklet that I have used for years called “The Upper Room.” (The devotional is also available on-line). The devotion starts with a scripture reference, to be read from your Bible. Then another verse is quoted which sort of highlights the theme of the reading. There is a reading, a prayer, a “thought for the day,” and a prayer focus. The devotionals are the Christian witness of contributors all over the world.

On Tuesday, August 17, the reading was entitled “Called to Care,” and was written by Jim Harnish from Florida. The scripture reference was Psalm 71:17-21 and the verse was Hebrews 13:7, *“Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.”*

The reading focused on the importance of “ministry” to our young people.....through teaching and leading youth groups.....and it called to my mind all those in my own youth (I know.....it was so long ago it is amazing that I CAN remember it!!!) who influenced the development of my relationship with God.....AND all those in our church family who are doing that with our youth.....John, Pete, Cathy, Betty, Kathleen, Martie.

I know that all these people.....from my past and our present.....don’t necessarily consider themselves “Youth Ministers.” But that is exactly what they are. As I thought about and remembered those in my own life, I realized that it was not always the details of what they said that had the most impact.....but the fact that they were there.....devoting their time and efforts and just living lives that exemplified Christian values. As the Hebrews verse says, yes.....speaking the word of God.....but also allowing me to consider the outcome of their way of life.....and giving me a faith to imitate. I DO give thanks for those who helped me grow in my faith.....and for those in our Grace Church family who are doing the same for our youth today! And hope you will join me in praying for our “Youth Ministers!!”

The text of the above mentioned reading is as follows:

BILL was my dad's partner in an auto-parts business. They sold to gas stations, car dealerships, and guys who worked on their own cars all over our corner of western Pennsylvania. Folks around town also knew that they were faithful church members. Dad taught a Sunday school class of senior-high boys. Teaching wasn't exactly his spiritual gift, but he gave it a good try, and the boys seemed to appreciate it. Bill was the adult counselor for the youth fellowship, which fit his sense of humor. Their careers were in auto parts, but their calling was in making disciples of Jesus Christ.

While there are still folks in that small town who remember Bill and my dad because of what they did with their business, there are also former teenagers, now grandparents, who give thanks for the way the two men helped lead them to Christ. That's why reaching out to young people matters. It's hard to imagine anything more challenging than being a Christian teenager in today's culture. But amid the cacophony of conflicting voices that would lead youth in a multitude of different directions, we can celebrate what God is doing in and through the lives of those who work with young people.

We give you thanks, O God, for those who bring your word of love and truth to young people. Amen.

Write a thank-you note to one of the people who have helped you grow in faith.

Jim Harnish (Florida, USA)



You're Invited!

Celebrate: Helen Appelberg's 80th Birthday

***On: Sunday, September 12, 2010
9:30 a.m.***

***Grace Episcopal Church
1115-36th St.
Galveston, Texas***

Have: Cake and Punch in Jinkins Hall after Church

If you cannot attend, but want to let Helen know that you are thinking of her on this special occasion, Please send you cards and notes to:

***Helen Appelberg
c/o Grace Episcopal Church
1115 36th St.
Galveston, Texas 77550***

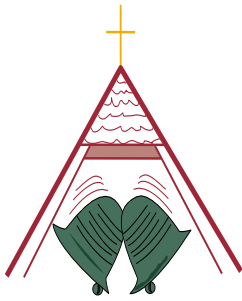


The African Team Ministry, which serves the Church in East Africa, will once more have a sale of handmade Crafts and Jewelry

Sunday, October 10th and Sunday, October 17
in Jinkins Hall, beginning at 11:00 AM

Proceeds from the sale of these items helps Anglican Dioceses in Africa provide support for orphans, aid to refugees, clean water and medical care in villages, repairing churches, and training for the laity.

Come and browse- you might find
a unique Christmas gift or two!



PEALINGS

Great news!! The Grace Episcopops are scheduled to perform on Sunday, October 17th for the *medium-brow* Galveston Musical Club at 3:30 PM at the Meridian concert hall!

Christian Ed, by Cathy Smith:

Thank you , thank you for the wonderful dry erase board. We have put it to good use. Our summer program will end on September 12th and our regular fall program of Creation will begin. We have an average of 15 children of all ages. During the summer, we meet lots of visitors. We would like to photograph the children and be able to print the image instantly. Any suggestions? Most of our students are little ones, so we have fun collecting critters and things. We wanted them to understand that God created them to take care of His creations, and that Jesus loves them and will always be there for them. The older students have created a rainforest atmosphere for our walls that will continue into our Creation program in September. It is such a joy to watch the progress of these young children.

Daughters of the King

Our new members have completed their training session. We will begin a new training session in October for anyone interested in being a "Prayer Warrior



"PRAYERS FOR ALL...ASK God's Healing Grace for all those on our prayer list. And we pray also for all members of our Armed Forces, serving

at home or abroad, particularly, *Paul Lett-Brown, Eric Gould, Marie Cox, Marcus P. Fontaine, Matthew Bonner, Philip Anderson, Quentin Colelli, Gary McKensie*

UTO FALL INGATHERING WILL BE SUNDAY November 7. BRING YOUR ENVELOPES ANDIOR UTO BOXES TO CHURCH ON THIS DAY.

Fall Teaching Series Wednesday evenings, Sept. 15 - Nov. 17

10-week study of the *Parables of Jesus*

Using a study guide by John Moore, that includes his modern day versions of familiar parables, we will take a fresh look at how Jesus teaches us by telling stories that are never out of date.



The Episcopal Church Women
Trinity Episcopal Church
Invite you to join us for a
Fall Luncheon Meeting
Saturday, October 2, 2010 at 11:30 a.m.
Trinity Church, Fellowship Hall
2216 Ball, Galveston

Joining us will be Rev. Debbie Daigle, Lay Vicar, Holy Innocents Episcopal Church, Madisonville, and Rev. Andrea Conklin, Deacon at St. Andrew's, Houston. Both Rev. Daigle and Rev. Conklin have worked with the Anglican Diocese of Southern Malawi. They will speak to us about a sewing project "Dresses for Little Girls in Africa", Love's Harvest, which is setting up gardens around Malawi, water wells and Nets for Life. Come and learn about Southern Malawi and these exciting programs in our companion diocese.

Lunch will be provided for you by the ECW Board.

RSVP by September 28 to
Gloria Schlemmer 409-740-8942
barleyfcs@sbcglobal.net
or Catherine Polk 409-935-2982



News Release

Office of Communications
John B. Connally Building • 301 Tarrow, Suite 364 • College
Station, TX 77840-7896
(713) 688-8932

For more information, contact:

Pete Smith, Texas Big Tree Registry Coordinator
psmith@tfs.tamu.edu, (979) 458-6650

Largest Japanese yew in Texas

Texas Forest Service Contacts:

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — A Japanese yew (*Podocarpus macrophyllus*) tree in Galveston County recently was confirmed by Texas Forest Service to be the largest of its kind in the state.

The tree (also known as yew plum pine) is owned by Grace Episcopal Church in Galveston. It will be added to the next edition of the Texas Big Tree Registry, a listing of the largest specimen of every tree species found in the state. "This tree is just tremendous," said Matt Weaver, Texas Forest Service forester in Houston, who officially measured the tree in July. "Its girth really makes the difference when you compare it to other trees of the same species."

The purpose of the Texas Big Tree Registry is twofold – to recognize the owners and nominators of the state's largest trees and to stimulate a greater public appreciation of trees. It is published quarterly on the Texas Forest Service website at <http://texasforests-service.tamu.edu/>.

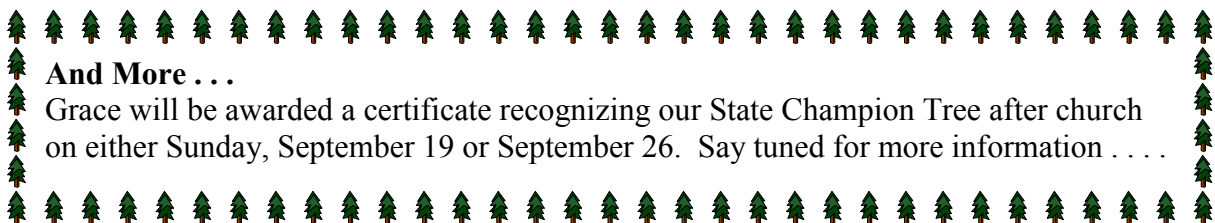
Trees are compared using an index that combines trunk circumference in inches with total height in feet, plus one-quarter of the average crown spread in feet. The new champ has a circumference of 99 inches, a height of 32 feet and a crown spread of 36.5 feet, giving it a tree index of 140 points..

Currently, Texas Forest Service recognizes 319 native or naturalized tree species that qualify for the list. Seventy-seven Texas trees are current national champions or co-champions, as listed in the 2010 National Register of Big Trees published by the conservation group American Forests.

August 18, 2010

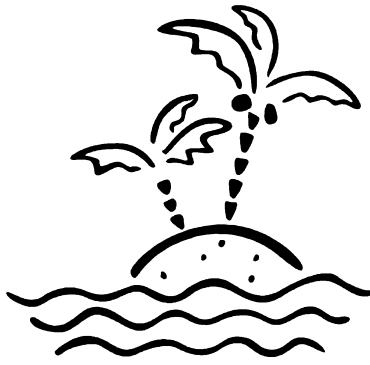
For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HEY, WAIT, THERE'S MORE...Back in 1983 we had Hurricane Alicia. While surveying the church for damage, we found that she had upended our yew tree, leaving it roots exposed. Quick-thinking Kenny Wegner got a winch truck and used it to pull the tree back to an upright position. They tied guy wires to her to keep her straight; and with not a little prayer, she survived to become the magnificent tree that she is now. The spirit of resilience and survival of our yew tree is symbolic of the spirit and resilience of Grace church. Thanks be to God.



And More . . .

Grace will be awarded a certificate recognizing our State Champion Tree after church on either Sunday, September 19 or September 26. Say tuned for more information



“Trees for Galveston” is a new project, very much in the early planning stages, that the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Texas are planning. The board president, Kaye Pendarvis, and Jacque Ellis met with Jackie Cole on Sunday, June 27th. Jackie Cole is a member of the Galveston Island Tree Conservancy and City of Galveston Tree Committee. She gave us a wealth of information about tree planting and planning in Galveston. She invited us to attend a meeting on Wed. June 30th that was all about planning “Galveston Re

Leaf”. The meeting on the 30th was a public planning meeting where there were people from the Texas Forest Service, City of Galveston Parks, members of the Galveston Island Tree conservancy and City of Galveston Tree Committee all presenting information about before IKE and after IKE in Galveston. They showed slides of the plantings that have been done and then the participants were asked to help with plans for the future. The goal is to plant 5000 trees in 5 years. Year one has past and the goal of planting a1000 trees was almost accomplished.

We are in the early stages of making plans for a fund raiser in the fall by the ECW throughout the Diocese of Texas. Our fund raiser has two main goals: planting trees in a park or public place where many people gather and two, plantings at each of the Episcopal properties in Galveston: Grace, Trinity, St. Augustine, William Temple Episcopal Center and St. Vincent House.

Jackie Cole asked the Forest Service if they would look at each of the Episcopal properties in Galveston to give suggestions for planting, and Pete Smith, of the Texas Forest Service, toured each of the properties on Friday, July 9.

Please let us know if you have specific needs on your church property and also about the needs in your neighborhood or congregation. Thank you.

Jacque Ellis, Trinity Episcopal Church
409-539-5578

2-Year Anniversary of IKE Work Day

Grace is joining other Episcopalians from the Diocese of Texas to help the Texas Episcopal Disaster Relief and Development group in their efforts to complete some of rebuilding projects they have ongoing in Galveston. The Episcopal Church is one of only two remaining faith based agencies still actively working to rebuild homes in Galveston. Come support their efforts and say thanks to them for the extraordinary work they have accomplished on our behalf. We hope to also have a house blessing or two—maybe for one of our parishioners!



Father Paul, Pete and John,

I want to thank you all for the money the Church donated to us to help pay for Chase to go to the BSA Jamboree. He is having a great time! Here is a picture of Chase, Jacob and some other scouts whitewater rafting in Tennessee. They did this on the way to Fort AP Hill.

They will be back next Wednesday, Aug 5 with memories of a lifetime.

Thank you all for your help and all the time you put in with BSA and mentoring our boys.

Thanks again, *Ellen Bossert*



Help Wanted

Volunteers are needed to work at the Silk Purse. If you have a Tuesday or Saturday free and can help there are forms available in the back of the church or you may call Shirley Bridges- 409 762-8886 or the Church Office 409 762-9676

The Silk Purse had a wonderful re-opening with many patrons stating how pleased they were to see the Silk Purse back open!! Thanks to all who have helped and contributed... We do have a request if anyone would like to donate- the Silk Purse could use: a step stool or small ladder, broom and dust pan, a fan, and shoe racks for men's shoes. We also have several bolts of material and boxes of material, so if someone likes to sew or knows of anyone needing material please come to the Silk Purse, open Tues. and Sat. 10-2 pm. Thanks..

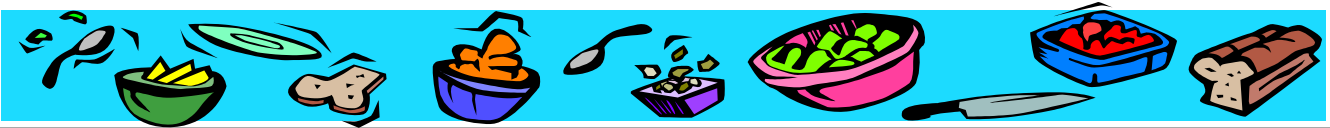
Graceful Gatherers hosted through November!

So please mark you calenders: September 3rd: John and Linda McCulley's, 12710 Maria Court

October 1st: Jeff & Mary Kilgore's, 164 Bora Bora

November 5th: Stan and ShuShu Clower's, 7912 Beluche

Graceful Gatherers is hosted monthly, usually on the first Friday of the month. All adults are welcome to join us for a pot luck dinner and enjoyable company. This is a great way to get to know you fellow church members. Please feel free to join us whenever possible.



Contemplative Prayer

Practice your new resolution to put Sabbath time in your week!

Grace Church hosts a contemplative prayer/Christian meditation group in the chapel on Tuesdays at 5:30 pm led by Bill Noble. We start with a weekly reading from the World Community Meditation, then meditate for twenty minutes, then have a brief period of questions and discussion. All baptized Christians have the capacity for contemplative prayer/meditation through the indwelling Holy Spirit. Please come to the chapel on Tuesdays for a quiet hour of prayer and meditation. If you have questions, call Bill Noble at 409-939-8099.

RECALL NOTICE

(Contributed by Cathy Smith)

The Maker of all human beings (**GOD**) is recalling all units manufactured, regardless of make or year, due to a serious defect in the primary and central component of the heart. This is due to a malfunction in the original prototype units code-named Adam and Eve, resulting in the reproduction of the same defect in all subsequent units. This defect has been technically termed "Sub-sequential Internal Non-Morality," or more commonly known as S.I.N., as it is primarily expressed.

Some of the symptoms include :

1. Loss of direction
2. Foul vocal emissions
3. Amnesia of origin
4. Lack of peace and joy
5. Selfish or violent behavior
6. Depression or confusion in the mental component
7. Fearfulness
8. Idolatry
9. Rebellion

The Manufacturer, who is neither liable nor at fault for this defect, is providing factory-authorized repair and service free of charge to correct this defect.

The Repair Technician, **JESUS**, has most generously offered to bear the entire burden of the staggering cost of these repairs. There is no additional fee required.

The number to call for repair in all areas is:
P-R-A-Y-E-R.

Once connected, please upload your burden of **SIN** through the **REPENTANCE** procedure. Next, download **ATONEMENT** from the Repair Technician, Jesus, into the heart component.

No matter how big or small the SIN defect is, Jesus will replace it with:

1. Love
2. Joy
3. Peace
4. Pat ience
5. Kindness
6. Goodness
7. Faithfulness
8. Gentleness
9. Self-control

Please see the operating manual, the **B.I.B.L.E.** (Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth) for further details on the use of these fixes.

WARNING: Continuing to operate the human being unit without correction voids any manufacturer warranties, exposing the unit to dangers and problems too numerous to list and will result in the human unit being permanently impounded. For free emergency service, call on Jesus .

DANGER: The human being units not responding to this recall action will have to be scrapped in the furnace. The SIN defect will not be permitted to enter Heaven so as to prevent contamination of that facility. Thank you for your attention!

GOD †

p.s. Please assist where possible by notifying others of this important recall notice, and you may contact the Father any time by 'Knee mail'!

Because He Lives!

"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" 1 John 1:3a

Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 12- Birthday Celebration for the Rev. Helen Appelberg

Monday, September 13- 2-Year Anniversary of IKE. Work Day with the Episcopal Disaster Relief Team of Galveston - meet at Wm Temple Center at 8:00 AM.

Wednesday, September 15- **Fall Teaching Series Begins.** A 10-week study of the *Parables of Jesus*. Using a study guide by John Moore, that includes his modern day versions of familiar parables, we will take a fresh look at how Jesus teaches us by telling stories that are never out of date.

September 25-October 10- St. Augustine's 2nd Annual Art Show—enter your masterpiece and win a prize.

November 12-14- **Graceful Getaway to Camp Allen.** Our annual weekend in the cabins on Lake Coffield, in the piney woods of Camp Allen.

2010 VESTRY

SR. WARDEN: Ella Anderson

JR. WARDEN: David Wilkes

SECRETARY: Vickie Robertson

John McCulley

Dan Ricketts

Carol Ramirez

Derek Paget-Clarke

TREASURER- Derek Paget-Clarke

CHANCELLOR- Jeff Kilgore

RECTOR- Fr. Paul Wehner

Happy Anniversary!

8/8 Don & Nancy Mafrige

8/10 Mike & Nancy Conoly

8/24 Ed & Juliet Russell

8/30 George & Joan Slusarchyk

9/1 Jon & Connie Carman

9/4 Brannon & Kathleen Mensing

9/6 Fr. Paul & Sherry Wehner

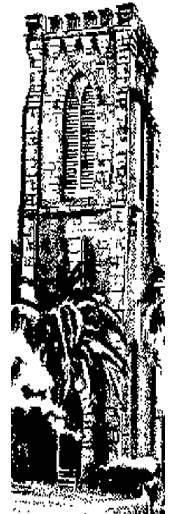
9/25 Kenny & Edna Wegner

8/1 Stan Brown
 8/2 Anne Jinkins
 David Rawls
 8/5 Jack Jinkins
 8/7 Jason Graham
 Julie Green
 8/8 Denise Graham
 8/14 Michael Provenzano
 Dan Ricketts
 8/16 Nancy Mafrige
 8/17 Carlos Rodriguez
 George Slusarchyx
 8/19 Danette Gonzales
 Earline Warren
 8/24 Makya Carranza
 8/29 Jean Baldwin
 8/30 Victor Arthur
 9/3 Amanda Ramirez
 9/5 Sandy Schlagenhauf
 9/6 John Buck
 9/10 Ariel Conoly
 9/11 Aaron Hervey
 9/12 Shawn Arthur
 Jeff Graham
 9/18 Nerissa Rawls
 9/20 Judy Ricketts
 9/22 Betty Huddleston
 Vickie Robertson
 9/25 Bob Scott
 9/27 Jerry Mount
 9/29 Jared Jackson

Happy Birthday!

THE BELL TOWER

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1115 36TH STREET
GALVESTON, TEXAS 77550
409 762-9676



DIOCESAN AND GRACE CHURCH MINISTERS

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THE REVEREND PAUL B. WEHNER - RECTOR

AARON HERVEY - ORGANIST

LAURA HYATT - CHOIR DIRECTOR

CATHY GOULD – PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

MARTINA AYALA - SEXTON

ELLA ANDERSON - SENIOR WARDEN

DAVID WILKES - JUNIOR WARDEN

DEREK PAGET-CLARKE - TREASURER

LAY MINISTRIES COORDINATOR—JAYNE DAVIS

SILK PURSE THRIFT SHOP - SHIRLEY BRIDGES

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING - CATHY SMITH

ALTAR GUILD - SHUSHU CLOWERS, DIRECTOR

ACOLYTE ABBA - GERALD RICHARD

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - CATHY SMITH

WEDDING COORDINATOR - PAT BEVIL

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WM. TEMPLE EPISCOPAL CENTER - THE REV. KYLE STILLINGS

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