

THE COMMUNICATOR

GIVING SEASON HAS DIFFERENT FEEL THIS YEAR

Stewardship season this year will be a series of new approaches interspersed in a template of tradition.

The campaign will start in early October after a series of purely social events that three families will host in their homes

Nick Goetze, a man with a heavy work travel schedule, a young family and little free time, can hardly wait.

“Hey, we are a great parish family. We should come together and just enjoy being together,” he said.

Goetze is chairman of the Stewardship Committee. This year’s drive is a compilation of ideas our leadership has tossed around for months about what it means to support Church of the Holy Communion and how best to engage people in the



Photo by Cindy McMillion

effort.

“We feel there is an opportunity for stewardship growth, and we also feel there is an opportunity for greater concentration on the importance of stewardship,” Goetze says.

Instead of a guest preacher giving the sermon on Celebration Sunday, October 28, Sandy will preach, talking to his own flock about a matter that is central to it.

“Nothing in the

church happens apart from stewardship giving,” says Sandy. “At Holy Communion, 94.3 percent of our expense budget is funded by pledges and undesignated gifts.”

The remainder comes from plate collection, fee income for use of the facility and other income. The point remains: The money the church has comes almost entirely from the

(Stewardship continued on page 2)

A LITTLE CHC INGENUITY PRODUCES SOLE-FUL WINDFALL

In the time it takes to walk from church to the south parking lot, plans can be hatched that would change lives. Ask Judy Horning and Margaret Smith.

Their visit while they walked ultimately produced 108 pairs of athletic shoes, many nearly new, for the people served at Constance Abbey.

Smith volunteers at Constance Abbey, essentially a couple of century-old homes on an unshaded, weedy stretch of road behind St. Mary’s Cathedral. The core staff live in the homes, their “urban monastery,” and offer the tide of homeless around them access to hot showers, laundry facilities, used clothing,

counseling and twice-daily prayer.

What Smith noticed as she sorted donated shirts, pants and coats – and watched them go out on the backs of the broken and forgotten – was how much they needed shoes.

“I can scrape up stuff from people, but it’s very hard to come up with shoes.”

Smith told Judy about what she was seeing, including the man named Terrence who needed a 14 EE shoe and was getting by mercilessly in less.

A few years earlier, Judy and her husband, Daniel Amsler, noticed a pile of used athletic shoes stashed in corner at a sports store.

(Shoes continued on page 9)

commitment in the pews.

Last fall, for a variety of reasons, including deaths, the number of people/families making pledges dropped from 319 to 296. While the amount of money the church leaders expects to take in through the end of 2018 is very similar to receipts in 2017, expenses have risen.

The Vestry tightened the budget, including changes to staff insurance plans and program budgets.

With a \$7 million construction project acting as a beacon in East Memphis and beyond for the dreams Holy Communion has for itself, Goetze says this is the time to build a campaign to increase giving and the good feeling that comes with it.

“Faith is certainly a reason to give,” he says. “So is a desire to support this parish and its first-rate facility and staff. There are a lot of reasons why it’s important to give and not necessarily because the Bible tells you so.

“I feel strongly about what we can do as a parish,” Goetze said. “One is to have first-rate programs for our parish and community to enjoy.”

With his encouragement, the giving season will start with series of parties. Goetze wants people to see how much they mean to each other and the wealth of ties they have through their church.

The invitations went out in late August.

“We look forward to people getting together as purely a social occasion outside of church,” Goetze said.

He suspects the topic of stewardship might not even come up.

“The receptions are an opportunity to come together for social times. I feel like one of the themes this year is: Come to Church. We have 700 adults on the rolls, yet 260 show up regularly at 10:30 on Sunday, and with the other services, we’re looking at sub-400. My message is, ‘Hey, we’re a great parish family. We choose to come together at Holy Communion. We are not as strong when you don’t participate and come.’ I’m bummed when I look forward to seeing people at church and they aren’t there.”

The receptions are an adaptation of the cottage meetings the congregation had in 2013 and 2015.

“We learned how wonderful it is when people get together in relatively small groups in someone’s home,” Sandy said.

“A lot of camaraderie comes of it. You meet people you didn’t know were fellow parishioners. You also see how big our church is because we are often in our smaller social circles.”

With the grounds and whole wings of the church torn up in construction, Sandy hopes the gatherings will connect people in new ways.

The step-pledge chart the church has used to help members envision the next level of giving is completely different this year. There are four steps instead of a dozen.

“The steps are simple,” Goetze says. “If you don’t pledge, start. If you do pledge, are you giving a meaningful gift to your parish family? And if it’s meaningful, how does it compare to your total income? And finally, are you taking a final step

toward being a leadership-level giver?”

Goetze has lined up three stewardship reflectors for Sundays that will culminate on October 28, when pledge cards are turned in.

“John Lewis is speaking October 14, with a message from the executive committee. Sarah Cowens speaks October 21, and Dr. Steve Sittnick will give the final reflection on what is means to lead a service-driven life.”

Instead of receiving pledge

cards on Celebration Sunday, they will be mailed to members’ homes the week of October 21.

“We’d like them to have a week for prayerful consideration but not fill the card in,” Goetze said.

People will fill the cards out in church on October 28 and turn them in as a corporate offering before going to the altar for Holy Eucharist.

“Hopefully, they will have kitchen-table conversations at home and come ready to be inspired,” Sandy said. “My own experience with stewardship and giving to the church was nominal until I was ordained and became more aware of how many people around me were giving in truly sacrificial ways. I felt I needed to do the same.

“I don’t feel obligated,” Sandy said. “I want to do it.”

The morning will end with a festive catered lunch, a tradition, in the parish hall.

With time to talk it over at home, Goetze hopes the number of cards turned in on Celebration Sunday rises.

“One year, I made nearly 100 phone calls personally to track everyone down afterward. It’s not like you call and that’s it. Some of the calls are 40 minutes long because people want to tell you how much this church means to them. I love those calls and hearing all the stories.

“But, we cannot make a budget until we know what people are giving.”



Photo by Cindy McMillion

'WE CAN DO AMAZING THINGS AS A COMMUNITY'

By Nick Goetze

Every year we come together as a parish family to make financial pledges of our personal resources to Holy Communion. Stewardship is by no means the most popular topic during the church year yet we should celebrate what our parish can accomplish.

I referred to our parish as a family because that is what we are. We have the families we are born with, the families we marry into, our closest friends we consider family and the parish family that we commit to.

As Episcopalians, we have many options in and around Memphis. Yet we have all chosen Holy Communion as our parish home. We support our family members through the highest and lowest moments.

We welcome in new members and celebrate those that depart. Stewardship is just one of the ways that we sustain commitment to our parish.

We can do amazing things as a community. We can have the best maintained facilities in which to worship and be enriched. We can have the best staff and programs. We can have an ever-bigger impact in our community through outreach. The list goes on and on.

Amanda and I came to our crossroad moment about ten years ago. I once again found a reason not to join her at church and upon her return I was informed that I had missed Rally Day. All I could think was that I had dodged



Photo by Lifetouch

Amanda and Nick Goetze, with their children Harrison and Madeline.

"We can have an ever-bigger impact in our community through outreach."

—NICK GOETZE

pledge as a parish family to grow our capabilities and resources.

(Nick Goetze is head of the Stewardship Committee this year.)

a bullet. Yet I was shortly later informed that she had signed me up to be a lector and an usher! A year later I was on the Vestry. A year after that I was also on the search committee looking for a young priest from Massachusetts.

The year I got off the vestry, Amanda and I ran the stewardship campaign, then she found herself on the Vestry.

I say all of this not to share my journey to get closer to God. It is the journey of how I became ever closer to my parish family. I know it is a cliché, but it is true.

The more involved and committed you become, the more you experience in return.

Around the time I became a member of the Vestry, Amanda and I had our first serious talk

about our pledge to stewardship.

It was time for us to step from a pledge of little significance to our financial lives to something we had to give real thought to. It seemed daunting at the time, but we have never looked back. Of all the charities we give to, the church is always at the top of the list.

If we all make a pledge that requires significant thought, prayer and discernment, we will collectively be able to accomplish many things. We have recently committed to massive structural enhancements. Now let's

NOTHING WILL
BE IMPOSSIBLE ...

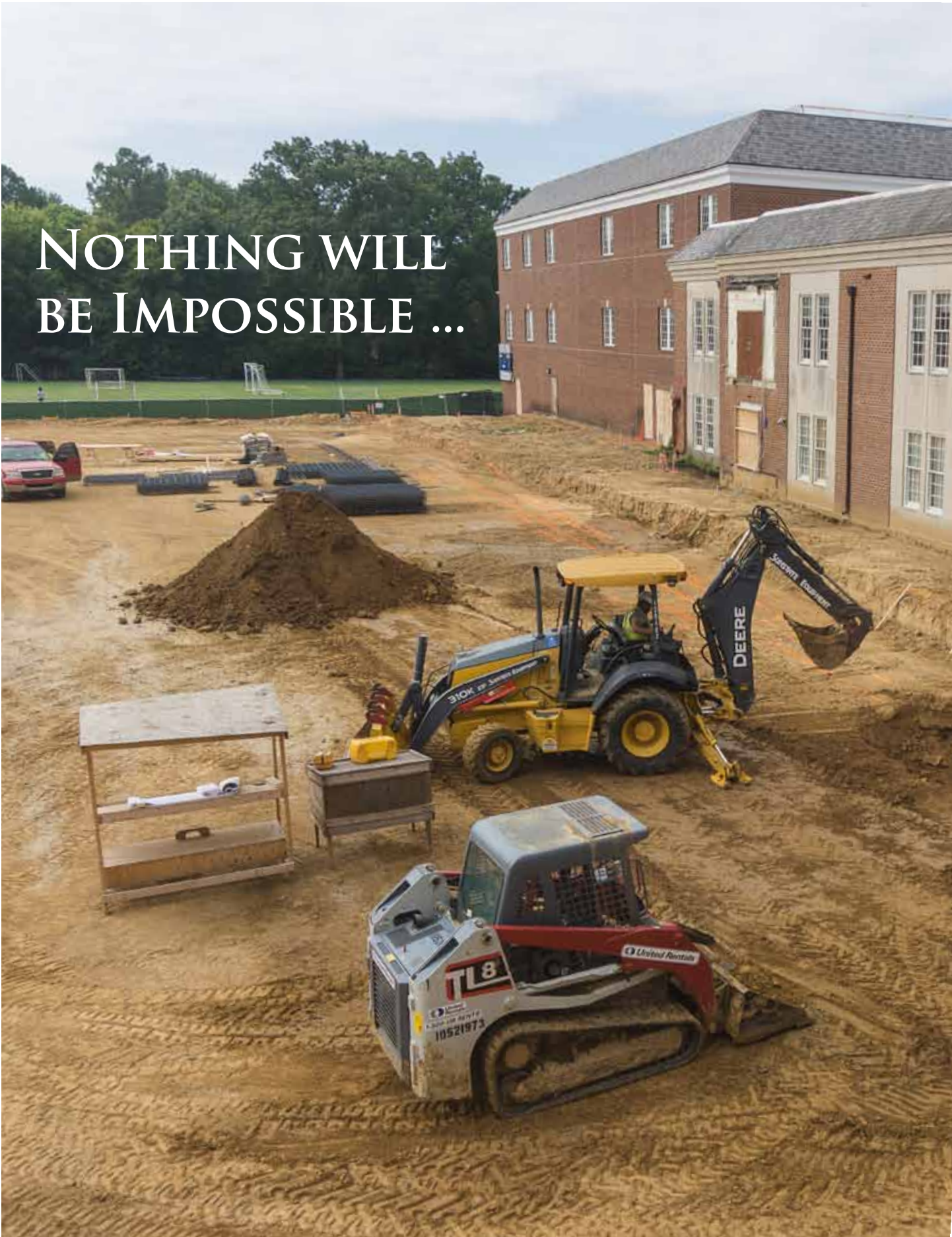


Photo by Cindy McMillion

What is the status of the church renovation project?

The Blaisdell and Greenwood buildings have been fully gutted, and new walls are being built within them. Over the next several months, we will see new plumbing, electrical, and mechanical systems installed, along with new windows throughout both buildings, a new elevator for our main lobby, and better handicap accessibility on all sides.

How can I keep myself and my kids safe?

As long as parishioners stay out of the construction areas, they should be safe. Adults know how important it is to respect construction fences and closed doors, but children often do not. We all need to work together to make sure that all of our kids stay out of danger.

Where can I park?

During school hours, the north end of the east parking lot (the slender parking lot that parallels Perkins Road) is reserved for church business; this area is often marked off with pennants. Please make sure to park only in this area during school hours. Outside of school hours, all parking is available for general use.

What arrangements have been made for handicap access?

New handicap parking spaces are available immediately in front of the nave, and a ramp is available on the east side of the nave. A temporary handicap ramp has also been installed at the southeast corner of Cheney Parish Hall near some temporary handicap parking spaces. A new, permanent ramp into Cheney Parish Hall will be constructed soon.

Where are the church offices?

The parish staff is working out of Moss Hall on St. Mary's north campus until we can move back into Greenwood and Blaisdell. Moss Hall's street address is 41 N. Perkins, although all church mail should still be addressed to 4645 Walnut Grove. The staff will host an open house in its

Q&A with Sandy

Moss Hall office suite on Sunday, September 30, after the 10:30 service.

How long will this project last?

We expect to reoccupy Blaisdell and Greenwood in the spring of 2019. Shortly thereafter, construction will begin in the Cheney Parish Hall building; we expect to reoccupy Cheney in the fall of 2019.

Can we afford all of this?

The vestry and the church renovations committee have worked hard to minimize costs without compromising quality or completeness. Gifts received through The Campaign for Holy Communion, combined with some vestry reserve funds, should be just about enough. We will use a line of credit to cover our cash flow needs, but the timely payment of every gift matters.

What about the nave?

The heating and cooling systems that serve the nave are in very poor condition. At the same time we explore our options with regard to these critical systems, the vestry and the church renovations committee are continuing to work on long-term plans for improving the nave and the narthex. More information will be forthcoming as those plans develop.

What's happening on the front lawn?

More than 100 construction vehicles will be parking on our campus every day when construction is in full swing. In order to keep everyone safe, a temporary parking area is being created on the church's front lawn so that church and school vehicles can be kept separate from construction vehicles.

This temporary parking area will not have any of the foundations that a permanent parking lot would have, and it will be completely removed at the end of construction. Civil engineers, architects and arborists are all working hard to protect our trees and ensure that our beautiful front lawn is not only restored at the end of construction, but improved.

SEPTEMBER AT CHC *Tell*



SUNDAYS AT 9:15 A.M. ADULT FORUM

September 9 & 16 Chapters of Grace

On September 9, we'll celebrate what Holy Communion has accomplished in five years with stories and the unveiling of the sixth rector's portrait.

On September 16, Vestry member Marlene Shaw leads an important conversation on envisioning our future. We need your voices around the table to make our planning compelling and inclusive.

September 23 & 30 Biblical Building Projects

Paul writes to the Corinthians, "According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it." Hester leads us through the building projects of our ancestors with wisdom for our season of construction.

October 7 The Forgotten Apostles

Peter and Paul, make way for Lydia and Cornelius! Sandy tells the stories of Jesus' less prominent apostles.

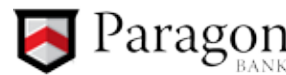
Children and Youth will meet on the third floor of Cheney. Nursery and toddler care is available from 9 a.m. to noon in Room 311.



All the fun without the run!

PICNIC & PARTY 11:30 a.m. Sunday September 16

Registration includes Zero-K t-shirt.
Sign up at bookit5k.racesonline.com
Proceeds benefit Emmanuel Center
and Books from Birth.



The Adams Family
Emily Woodside & Bill Falvey
Carmine & Bill Vaughan
Bill & Catherine Bateman
Sarah & Tom Cowens
Rebecca & John Bakke
The Straton Family

Lattie Michael
David Dowling, M.D.
The Maury/McCain Family
Kendra & Robert Propst
Susan & George Wortham
Lilie & Bob Hudson
Genie & Ralph Braden

Your Story | Take a Journey | Make a Difference



Activities for Youth

EVERY WEDNESDAY
Youth attend Compline at 6:30 p.m., followed by W.O.W.

September 9 Room in the Inn at Calvary

5:15 p.m.
Sign up to greet, serve or provide entertainment.

September 16 Jimmy Games (*Jimmy Fallon inspired games*)

6:30 p.m. dinner, Carrick Room

September 23 Slip 'n' Zip at St. Columba

1:30-4:30 p.m. \$10

September 30 Movie night

6:30 p.m. dinner, Carrick Room

October 7 Fall Break (*no EYC*)

October 14 Memphis Rox

879 E. McLemore
5:15 p.m. \$10 suggested donation


October 21 Special Friends Halloween Party

All Saints' Episcopal Church
4:30-7:00 p.m.

October 28 EYC Halloween Party

Emma Gammill's home.
6:30 p.m.

Young Adult OUTINGS



Sunday, September 23	Sunday, October 14
Slip 'n' Zip	Levitt Shell
St. Columba	Free Concert
1:30 p.m.	Las Cafeteras
	7-8:30 p.m.

Words³

This group of writers reads from their own work once a month. September's topic is "Something my father taught me." All are welcome, including listeners. Emily Ruch is hosting in her home. September 20 at 6 p.m.

SPORTS & RECREATION



We offer basketball for kindergartners and separate divisions for boys and girls up to 18. Once-a-week practices begin in mid-November. Games start December 8. Registration ends October 26.

Go to www.holycommunion.org.

Kindergartners' games 5:30-6:30 p.m. on Fridays. Other games will be primarily on Saturdays.

Coaches needed. Sign up on the registration form.

YOGA	INT. YOGA	TAI CHI	ZUMBA
M, W 4:15 p.m.	T, Th 4:15 p.m.	M, W 11:30 a.m.	M 6:15 p.m. W 6:30 p.m. Sa 9:30 a.m.



CHORAL EVENSONG

September 30 at 5:30 p.m.



OPEN HOUSE MOSS HALL

September 30
Noon - 1 p.m.

TEEN'S SPIRIT GLOWS IN POOCH OLYMPICS

Marshall McGahey, 13, is running on the St. Mary's cross-country team this fall; she's a new aunt to twins and somewhere in the few minutes between school and homework, she's planning her Fourth Annual Pooch Olympics.

Not only does that mean the doggie obstacle course the McGaheys store in the garage and attic has to be unpacked and carried out, but this year, Marshall was determined to raise \$7,000 for the Humane Society of Memphis and Shelby County in the carnival she stages in the front yard.

This year's event was September 9.

To understand how big of an ask that is, in the three previous years combined, Marshall has raised \$10,000 to help hurt, lost and neglected dogs.

"I'm optimistic," she says. "I think we can do it. A lot of our money does come from sponsors. And because everything is donated, all the proceeds go to the Humane Society."

She is one of dozens of young people at Holy Communion whose achievements are part of their dedication to Gospel values.

Marshall was 8 when she had the idea.

"I had visited the Humane Society a couple of times. I remember being there and wanting to take all the dogs home. I wanted to do something to help," she said. "I thought of creating a Pooch Olympics. Mom said 'not this year. We can do it next year.' She thought I'd forget. I didn't, and here we are."

For two hours on a Sunday afternoon in September, the McGaheys' front yard is Pooch Central. Friends, neighbors and sponsors bring their dogs, and register for the obstacle course, a series of canine challenges.

"It looks pretty crazy to someone walking past who doesn't know what it is," Marshall says.

She has an e-mail account for Pooch Olympics ("It makes it easier to keep with donations"). Participants can buy a hand-designed event t-shirt for \$10.

She recruits judges from the Humane Society. People park up and down her street for an event that grows ever year.

Hollywood Feed donates gift baskets. MEMPopS is a regular. So is the photo booth, and for a while, the Pooch Kissing Booth was an outrageous hit.

"Skittles, my grandmother's dog was in the kissing booth.

It was really funny for the people who did it," Marshall said. "There was no charge."

(Her grandmother is Susan Russell.)

All in all, about 30 dogs participate. Their owners pay \$20 each. The rest of the money comes from sponsors Marshall recruits, starting with her mother's interior design business clients.

"One customer, Roger Higgins, a designer in Nashville, wrote her a check. Another designer found out how much Roger donated and gave her \$500. When he asked who to write the check to, Marshall said, 'I'm 9 years old, you better write it to the Humane Society,'" her mother, Evelyn McGahey says, laughing.

"She fights for the underdog. She has a dear, sweet heart. If I ever were to doubt there is a God, I only have to look at Marshall. There is no way I could have done this (having Marshall and raising her) without there being a God. It's far bigger than I am," she said.

Matt Womack, head of outreach and education at Humane Society knows Marshall well. He always attends the Pooch Olympics.

"I have worked at the Humane Society for seven years, and she continues to amaze me with her dedication and determination to help as many animals as she can," Womack said.

"Her event is completely planned and executed by her and her 'team' - her father and mother and sister, Betsy. They find sponsors. They sell merchandise. They put together gift baskets to award various winners.

"Literally, every single part of the event, they take care of. The only thing they ask of us is to enjoy the fruits of their labors and continue our life-saving work," he said.

"Marshall, with the support of her family give me hope that the future is bright for our community and the animals that live here."



Photo by Evelyn McGahey

Five years ago, Marshall McGahey couldn't stop thinking about the abandoned dogs at the Humane Society. She branded her own front-yard fund-raiser.

“People buy new shoes and often leave their old ones. Or they return shoes,” she said. “When we asked about them, the clerk said, ‘We give them to charity.’ That stuck in my head.”

Horning drove to the store, sure she would be told they were reserved for a specific charity.

“I thought, ‘I’ll just walk in and see.’”

“They were happy to let me have them. I picked up a couple bags of shoes there. Then I remembered that this store has another location. I called them. They said, ‘Sure, come on by.’”

A clerk showed Horning to the back room where 50-gallon garbage bags of full of shoes were stacked against the walls.

“My car was filled. The trunk, the back seat, the front. I could not have taken any more,” she says, laughing. “And one of the best parts was that they carried them to my car.”

“I was pleased. And it made Margaret so happy. She is the one who deals with the people every day and cares for them and wants to give them what they need. They are on their feet all day. One of their biggest problems is having horrible, awful shoes.”

Smith sorted through every pair in her home, washed soiled laces from some and bought new ones for others. Five needed new insoles. Only two pairs were unusable.

“Many were brand new,” Horning said. “Most were in incredible shape.”

Miraculously, there was a 14 EE in the lot, which Terrence now wears, beaming and pointing to his feet every time he sees Smith.

“Terrence was the first one of three who needed 14s to show up at the clothes closet. I had plenty of 13s to go around, but 14s are a rarer find,” she said.

When word got out at Holy Communion, Judith Moore, mother of former NBA player Tarik Black, dropped off a pair

of size 14s he’d worn on a trip home to Memphis and left behind.



Photo by Margaret Smith



Photo by Cindy McMillion

Margaret Smith sorted the shoes in her living room (above). “Now, we can ask people what size they wear instead of what size will you take,” she said.

The man that gets them will be walking in an NBA player’s shoes, an almost unimaginable juxtaposition of wealth and poverty, fame and obscurity that only reinforces for Horning and Smith what can happen when needs become known.

“We should do more for Constance Abbey because of its relationship to St. Mary’s Cathedral,” Smith said. “Because where we are, our ability to actually do something

for the homeless at our site is not possible. We lack the facilities.

“I love serving the people. I love feeding them, but there is also a difference in feeding them and sitting down and chatting with the homeless,” she said. “Before I decided to do all this and get involved at Constance Abbey, I thought ‘Is just feeding and putting clothes on them enough?’”

“I did a Google search of Bible verses about the poor. Feeding and clothing is pretty high on the list,” Smith said with a chuckle.

Horning organized the work the congregation did at Constance Abbey on Labor Day. Smith hopes the connection and the role the Reverend Gillian Klee plays as the abbey’s chaplain, will spur more from Holy Communion to see what they could do.

She suggests being a porch counselor, a volunteer who uses a catalog of social services the abbey has put together to help clients connect with housing, jobs and healthcare.

“The porch counselors sit on the porches and help people. After you do it for a while, you get familiar with the resources available. With training, anyone could do it,” Smith says.

“Your volunteer time can be a huge tax deduction, if you need that,” she said. “The volunteer coordinator verifies the time you work. A log is kept on the computer for you.”

To learn more, contact volunteer@constanceabbey.org.

'HOW CAN WE THANK YOU ENOUGH?'

By Sandra Ferrell,
Executive Director, the Lisieux Community

Did you ever think of yourself as a strong ox? In Matthew 11:28-30 Jesus says, "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

In August 2014, the Lisieux Community hosted its first residents. Margaret Dean and other women from Church of the Holy Communion asked if they could cook and eat a meal each month with the residents. I was happy for them to have role models, but I thought it would never last because the church women would get bored.

For four years, they have served joyfully with the women who have come through our doors.

Each is fully present during the visit. One sends cards to encourage the women. Another takes residents on silent retreats. Our women are excited when it's time for the meal together. One day I asked why. I was told, "They treat us like people, and they don't ask about what we have done or treat us like a project."

When I told Margaret, she said "all of us have things in our lives we don't want to talk about.' We come to visit and have a good time."

The group invited Hester Mathes, senior associate rector, to join for dinner. She was bombarded with questions. Our residents wanted to go to church with Margaret and the others.

Margaret said they could not have paid her a greater compliment. We made arrangements to get them to church, and their church friends sat with them.

One Sunday, I picked up Wendy, one of the residents, after church. She was talking to a woman. The woman's children were hanging on Wendy, playing. When she got in the car, Wendy was crying. I asked what was wrong and she said, "That woman lets her kids play with me."

Several months ago, one of our women who had gotten a good job and had just received a promotion, dies of an overdose. Hester immediately called to offer assistance. The funeral was held at Holy Communion. Her family was so grateful for a place where people she loved would come.

A few weeks later, another, Wendy, was getting ready to be baptized at Holy Communion, her home church. She died of a drug overdose the Friday before. Again, we were heartbroken. Wendy's mom has a church in Memphis, but she wanted the funeral to be at Holy Communion. Members showed up in support. How can we thank you enough?

A few months ago, Cindy McMillion decided to produce a book of her interviews with the women and give the proceeds to the Lisieux Community. She

used their own words to describe how they ended up in prostitution and addiction, their pain and their fear and the hopelessness of escaping "the life."

We had the book launch party at Holy Communion. Sandy, Hester and the staff all worked with our women friends from the church. We expected perhaps 125 people; 178 came! The Lisieux Community went home with \$2,749 that night. Do you have any idea how much that benefits us as we minister to the women?

Sandy quietly stated, "This is what the kingdom of God is supposed to look like. All of us from all walks of life worshiping and working together to heal the broken world in which we live."

I started with the story of the oxen for a reason. Margaret Dean, Tracy Killen, Kristin Powell, Mary Fortin, Cindy McMillion, Gail Branch, Barbara Boucher, Amy Odell and Terry Jones are the stronger, spiritually, trusting God to help them walk with the spiritually inexperienced from the Lisieux Community on this wonderful, joyful, frightening, hopeful, tiring journey to wholeness. I am so excited to be a part of it!



Photo by Cindy McMillion

Tracy Killen, Margaret Dean and Gail Branch are part of the CHC team of women serving the Lisieux Community.

Enhancing THE CONTEMPLATIVE



Photo by Cindy McMillion

Like a flowerbed, the 5:30 p.m. Sunday service is getting some grooming to enhance its contemplative feel and potentially attract new worshippers

“We want to build upon what we are already doing well and grow it and spread the good news,” Hester said.

The changes come out of a series of listening sessions Hester conducted last fall.

The service has been promoted around the Taizé and Celtic music that both sets the tone and sets the services apart. But to the people who attend regularly, the service is beloved for its quiet, contemplative pauses.

“The alternating Taizé and Celtic music was a little confusing to the seekers who came to the service and sometimes to those leading it,” Hester said. “We can make a consistent form of worship while still preserving those traditions.”

The passing of the peace is one example. It’s placement in worship

depended on whether the music was Taizé or Celtic. In the new format, which began in early September, the people pass the peace to each other before coming together for communion.

The welcome announcements are tailored to the interests of contemplative worshippers and people who come from a variety of faith backgrounds. Hester said. “We’ll announce Centering Prayer events and outreach, but not the Easter Egg Hunt, for instance,” she said. “Because that is not who typically come to this service.

“The welcoming will recognize that there are people with us who are unfamiliar with church and our liturgy. We are going to make worship feel comfortable for people who are maybe experiencing communion for the first time and to help people see that there are many ways to pray in the service. You don’t have to do all of them,” she said.

Because much of the service is led by laypeople, including those who

give the weekly reflection, the clergy and people helping with communion and administering healing prayer are experimenting with not wearing vestments.

“It downplays the hierarchy, and lifts up the priesthood of all believers,” Hester said.

“We are going to try it and see how it feels for ourselves and if it has a welcoming feel to those unfamiliar with church ceremony,” Hester said. “It may have a welcoming feeling for newcomers to say the leaders look like me.”

On the nights that Evensong is incorporated into the 5:30 service, Holy Eucharist has been administered from the high altar. To keep the service uniform week to week, the communion elements will now be served on an altar closer to the people, just as they are on other Sunday nights.

To keep the liturgy dynamic, the clergy are using more of the eucharistic prayers in the Enriching Our Worship supplement to the Prayer Book.

“We cycle through the eucharistic prayers at the 10:30 service for the same reason,” Hester said. “It allows us to live into all the beautiful liturgical language we have been given.”

Some changes have been in place several months. All the reflectors were trained in how to give a reflection appropriate to a wide variety of believers. The list of people participating in the service is now online, which means people can fill in their substitutes without having to alert the church office. And, seeing the complement of all the people listed to serve also will eliminate people being booked week after week as substitutes when others are open.

“We will re-evaluate at the end of the season,” Hester said. “Anyone who wants to talk through anything is welcome to talk to me. This is an open invitation to come speak in person, any time.”

THE COMMUNICATOR



Church of the Holy Communion

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www.holycommunion.org

WORSHIP TIMES

Sundays: 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

Weekdays: Monday through Friday 8:10 a.m.

Wednesday 12:15 p.m.

CLERGY

The Reverend Sandy Webb, *Rector*

The Reverend Hester Mathes, *Senior Associate Rector*

The Reverend Dr. Randy McCloy, *Deacon*

VESTRY

John Lewis, *Sr. Warden* + Mike Murphy, *Jr. Warden*

David Visinsky, *Treasurer* + Marlene Shaw, *Clerk*

Debbie Campbell, Mike Driscoll, Amanda Goetze, Hugh Holt,

Nat Johnson, Dale Jones, Tracy Killen, Tim McCormack,

Anne-Morgan Morgan, Cava Sittnick, Richard Williamson,

Christy Yarbrow and *Youth Representative* Evelyn Roberts

LAY STAFF

Teresa Boone	<i>Director of Administration</i>
Laura Clausen	<i>Financial Assistant</i>
Elizabeth Coldiron	<i>Minister of Hospitality</i>
Mary Beth Darrow	<i>Director of Operations</i>
Martha Earnest	<i>Facilities Staff</i>
Julie Fike	<i>Director of Recreation & Wellness</i>
Dr. Jane Gamble	<i>Assistant Minister of Music</i>
Alice Hollis	<i>Minister to Children</i>
Ellen Koziel	<i>Assistant Minister of Music</i>
Beth Mitchell	<i>Assistant Minister of Communication</i>
Ann Moorehead	<i>Facilities Staff</i>
Dr. David Ouzts	<i>Minister of Music and Liturgy</i>
Kenyetta Powell	<i>Receptionist</i>
Jane Roberts	<i>Minister of Communication</i>
Jim Sawicki	<i>Sexton</i>
Jamie Shaw	<i>Sexton</i>
Carter Webster	<i>Minister to Youth</i>

Church of the Holy Communion, an Episcopal Church in the center of Memphis, seeks to be a sacred presence, grounded in the servant ministry of Jesus, offering spiritual growth opportunities for all.

The Communicator, (USPS.) #015-799, is published Monthly by CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMMUNION, 4645 Walnut Grove, Memphis, TN 38117-2597. PERIODICAL POSTAGE paid at Memphis, TN. POSTMASTER: Send address change to Church of the Holy Communion, 4645 Walnut Grove Rd., Memphis, TN 38117-2597.

Memorials & Honoraria

Received July 16, 2018 – August 15, 2018

In memory of the Reverend Reynolds Cheney

Paul & Sue Matthews

In memory of Jackson Roberts

Paul & Sue Matthews

Art & Connie Cruthirds

Deborah Matthews

In memory of Thomas Walker Monaghan, M.D.

Kent & Susan Wunderlich

Gay Daughdrill Boyd

Sarah & Tom Cowens

Debby & Steve Schadt

Camille & Ed Lemaster

Michelle Shadix

Bettye Sights

Carmine & Bill Vaughan

Sally Roberds

Will James

Emily Woodside & Bill Falvey

Walter D. Wills, III

Jerry Huff

Oakleigh & Tobin Ryan

Bobby, Helen, Caroline

& Bobby Wade, Jr.

Anne & Joseph Fisher

Minetry Apperson &

Whit Crowley

Jane Wills

Suzanne Plyer

Mr. & Mrs. Robert F.
Fogelman, II

Margaret Clifton

James & Alison Thomas

Guy & Linda Photopoulos

In memory of Frank Jones

Gay Daughdrill Boyd

In memory of Roy Bell

Art & Connie Cruthirds

In memory of Father Don Mowery

Art & Connie Cruthirds

In memory of Doris Belcher Campbell

Fleming Associates Architects

Jim & Theresa Hughes

In honor of Allison Clark

Gay Daughdrill Boyd

In honor of Dr. & Mrs. Allen Hughes

Gay Daughdrill Boyd

In honor of Sandy & Jessica Webb

Art & Connie Cruthirds

In memory of Shirley Pouncey

Andy Pouncey

In celebration of the marriage of Alex Buford and Kyle Ashby

The Buford family