
Church Street News

The Newsletter of St. Lawrence Episcopal Church

Issue No. 10, Volume 10

October 2002

St. Lawrence Episcopal Church is ... *to embody God's love in the world around us*

This month, I wrap up a series of articles that I began in July. I've been using our parish Mission Statement to frame some thoughts, borne of current reading and current practices, about our upcoming expansion. The last of what I take to be three "mission imperatives" in that statement concerns our call to take the love of God we have come to know — in our fellowship and in our worship — and make it real for our neighbors.

The building's way of reaching out

Most of our "neighbors" who come to St. Lawrence during the course of any given week do not show up on a Sunday morning, but more likely on a weekday evening, attending one of the many support groups we host. As distinct from our Sunday visitors, opening our doors to them — without any expectation of our receiving anything back from them — is, to my mind, a tangible expression of God's love in a broken world.

Along those lines, in *Re-Pitching the Tent*, Richard Giles says that "we need to ask ourselves some hard questions as a community about the usefulness of our facilities as a means of making a difference to the lives of any around us ..." In 1999, we engaged in a "re-Vision" program that helped us ask such hard questions. Members of our parish spoke then of other ways our facilities might further benefit our neighbors. It was thought that if we could add showers, for example, we might someday become a PADS site. In a different vein, noting our Anglican tradition's appreciation of aesthetics and the arts, parishioners proposed concerts and other cultural events (suggesting a need for a gathering space that could accommodate multiple functions).

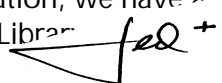
A people who are sent out

More vital than what *our building* does when we're away, however, is the matter of what *we* do. Every Sunday, the congregation is dismissed with words such as, "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord." In the design plans for our new worship space, there's a blank space on the wall just off the south side of the doors leading out and I've imagined words of dismissal written there, reminding us that we are called to be bearers of the Gospel in all that we say and do as we leave this facility.

Words that remind us of our calling are appropriate, but I've also imagined that an icon for our patron saint might be placed there near the door instead. You will remember that St. Lawrence, a 4th century deacon, was put to death because he considered the poor, the sick, the hungry to be "treasures of the church," surpassing in value the silver and gold coveted by the Roman prefect. With that additional image in mind, it occurs to me that an alms basin and/or food basket might conveniently be placed in proximity to such an icon.

There are other issues that come to mind. Does the building allow us to see that what we do inside connects to the world outside? Or does it cut us off from God's creation? Will a deacon (see p. 9) have a clear space from which to commission us for our ministries?

Not a diatribe, but a conversation

When I began this series of articles in July, I expressed the hope that this might be the beginning of a conversation about how we might furnish our new church building. To further that conversation, we have a couple of adult forum sessions scheduled in the coming month. If you're able, join us in the Library  after the 9:00 o'clock service on October 20 and 27 for more conversation.



O God, our help
in ages past . . .
our hope
. . . for years to come

Expansion Update

As we head into fall, all of the efforts of many different people on many varied aspects of our expansion are finally coming together. In the area of **Funding**, thanks to the work of investment counselor **Rich Babjak** and Expansion Chairman **Mike Rinella**, we are now the proud holder of two bonds (which work like loans) with Libertyville Bank and Trust.

The bonds are set up very much like 26-year mortgages, with fixed rates for the first 6 years, then with adjustable rates every five years. The first bond is for \$1 million and covers the taxable portion of our project (that portion that will be used by St. Lawrence alone, and not by other groups in the community, i.e. the new worship space). It carries an interest rate of 7.125%. The second bond is for the rest of the project that *will* be made accessible to the community (classrooms, fellowship hall). It is for \$1.8 million and carries an interest rate of only 5.125%.



While we are under construction, the bond repayment is set up like a “bridge” or construction loan. The bank will charge us *interest only* for the first two years, and only on those monies we draw out to pay our contractors. After two years, or upon completion of the project, we will be billed interest and principal amortized over the remaining 24 years. The pledges received from our parishioners will be used to make payments to contractors and to cover our monthly mortgage payments as we grow.

Others are also working hard on making sure our project runs smoothly. **Ralph Swank** will be reviewing our insurance requirements and double checking the insurance coverage of any contractors on the job. **Dave Siebert** and **Jim Dunsing** are working to address the environmental concerns of asbestos removal in our current facility. Attorney **Fred Rawles** is donating his service to review our contracts. Be sure to offer all these volunteers your thanks.

There will be many more opportunities to help as we progress with the project. For example, the contractors have suggested we can save quite a bit by doing some projects, such as interior painting, ourselves. There may also be some potential “**Friends of St. Lawrence**” out there who would be willing to donate/offer discounted pricing on materials and labor required for our project. If you know of any such individuals please let Mike Rinella know.

At the September 12 meeting, landscape architect and parishioner **Jim Dowden** reviewed the landscaping plans his firm has prepared for us at no charge. He has some truly beautiful ideas for areas of the property, including a peaceful meditation garden in the interior courtyard. Take a moment to review his detailed plans for our landscaping. They are available in the library.

NOTE: The Expansion Committee now meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of every month (except holidays). This is a change from Wednesdays to accommodate choir rehearsals.

Timetable for Building Expansion Project

As of the time of printing, this revised timetable accurately reflects the proposed schedule of events that will take place over the coming months as we expand and grow! As of right now, the Expansion Committee and Vestry have approved the plans. The architect and general contractor are currently working on the construction documents or specifications that will spell out every detail to the sub-contractors who will be bidding on the project.

October 30, 2002

50% Construction Documents Complete

November, 2002

Trees and plantings removed from the proposed construction area

January 1, 2003

Names of potential "Friends of St. Lawrence" (contractors or suppliers who may want to offer products or services at reduced rates or free of charge) due to General Contractor

January 22, 2003

Requests for bids sent to all interested sub-contractors

February 14, 2003

Bids due

February 15, 2003

Building Permit Complete

February 19, 2003

Review of bids and recommendation to Expansion Committee by General Contractor

MARCH 3, 2003 CONSTRUCTION BEGINS!

November 1, 2003

Phase I New Sanctuary and offices complete

Advent, 2003

Move in to new sanctuary

December 13, 2003

Phase II Remodel old nave (new narthex and choir room) complete

January 15, 2004

Project Complete

Senior Warden's Report

Here we are again, the colors on the trees are changing, Sunday School is back in session, and the Cubs have packed it in for the year.

Last July I wrote about the many blessings we have received and the challenges we face. We continue to be blessed by a positive variance in our budget. Our income remains strong and expenditures are in line or below what was anticipated. This has allowed the vestry to do many things. First and foremost, we have addressed the issue of Mother Cynthia's compensation. I'm joyful to report to you that her compensation is now at the same level of those who are in similar positions about the diocese. I thank you all for allowing us to fulfill what we originally wanted to do during our budget process last fall, but were unable to do based on projected pledges.

Besides addressing Mother Cynthia's compensation, the vestry has also been able to increase efficiency in many of our office functions including purchasing a new printer and fax machine. We have additionally funded the requests of our ministry teams enabling those ministry teams to improve and enhance their activities. I invite you to read the minutes of our vestry meeting for more detailed information about our financial picture. You can find them on the bulletin board next to the choir room.

After many years of dedicated service as the treasurer of St. Lawrence, Margaret Babjak has chosen to step down from this position. We all owe her a huge debt of gratitude for her tireless efforts and many volunteer hours on our behalf. She was an invaluable asset to all of us.

Finally, I would like to welcome Ken Carrano as our new treasurer. He brings a wealth of knowledge to this position and we look forward to working with him. The parish is blessed that he chose to fill this position.

Soup Kitchen

Our next Soup Kitchen date is Sunday, October 20th. The Gregory Family has volunteered to be the coordinators on that date, however we are still in need of volunteers. We are also in need of dessert donations, there will be a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board for both volunteers and dessert donations.



For those of you who have never helped with the Soup Kitchen, this is how it works. The coordinators plan the menu and purchase the necessary groceries for the day. The volunteers gather at St. Lawrence around 11:30 and car-pool up to the Soup Kitchen which is held at Christ Episcopal Church in Waukegan. Upon arriving groceries are carried in, ovens are started, and people break into smaller groups to prepare different menu items. There is usually a flurry of activity for the first hour or so preparing the food. There is often a little "lull" for about an hour while the food cooks, and then we serve the guests between 2:00 and 3:00. Clean-up then commences and if all goes smoothly, everyone is back home by 4:30 to enjoy the rest of their day. So, please consider giving your time to this fun and worthwhile outreach program. Children aged 10 and over are welcome, so it's a great family activity.

If you have any questions, please contact Julia Karnstedt.

Episcopal Relief and Development Issues Report

St. Lawrence parishioners were extremely generous in their contributions to Episcopal Relief and Development last fall following September 11th. ERD has recently published a report detailing their response and ministry in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks. A copy of the report has been posted on the bulletin board next to the Library for any who might wish to examine it.

Cynthia+



Crop Walk

On October 20th we will join over two thousand community walks across the USA who want to help make the world a better place. Please get involved as a walker, or a sponsor. See Cecelia Secor after Church, for more information or to receive a walker's packet. A great day for a family outing!

Note:

* One billion people (one sixth of the human family) live on incomes of less than a dollar a day; over one quarter of them live in sub-Saharan Africa.

* 186 million Africans are malnourished, including 26 million children.

* Over a third of all refugees and displaced persons live in Africa, the world's most impoverished continent.

* More than 21 million people have died from AIDS since the 1980's, over 75% of them in sub-Saharan Africa.



Youth Group News

Youth Leaders are in place for our three youth groups. They are: Rite-13, Lisa Cook and Jack Lasheff; J2A, Frank Top and Don Craig; YAC, Jennifer Kanches, Mason Ayres and Robert Moseley. We are in need of 4 more leaders for this program year.

In addition to our Sunday morning curriculum, we are going to have meetings for all three youth groups once a month on Sunday evenings. More information to follow. If you have any questions please contact Margaret Snow.

Facilities Ministry

Given budgetary constraints, it is very difficult to adequately preserve and protect our facilities. As such, I often need to look to other sources to accomplish repairs, deep cleaning, etc. At our recent Kick-Off Sunday Ministry Fair I asked for members to donate 1 or 2 hours per week/month/quarter/or year but only had a few people sign up. If each adult member of the parish would donate 1 or 2 hours per year (in addition to other volunteer time) I would have over 300 hours for the year (25 hrs/month or 5.77 hrs/week) to preserve the "treasures" of St. Lawrence to everyone's satisfaction.

At a recent presentation for the expansion, it was mentioned that some of the "alternates" will be done with the volunteer help of the membership. Donating your time will be extremely helpful as the Expansion Committee determines which projects can be completed "in-house" versus paying the contractor to complete.

I would also like to thank Jim Hartshorne for his assistance in the installation of the portable AC/ Heating unit in Mother Cynthia's office, the installation of the A/C unit in Father Jed's office and the A/C units in the classrooms on the upper level. Also in need of thanks are Jim Dunsing, Don Craig, Jack Lasheff and Billy Upton for their help with various lighting projects. A sign up sheet is located on the bulletin board at the church. If you would prefer please call me. Thank You!

Jeanne Murphy



Church Cleaning

**Date to Remember:
Saturday, October 26th
Fall Clean-Up Day**

United Thank Offering (UTO) Sunday

The United Thank Offering is a personal and family devotional program of the Episcopal Church. Its mission is to raise the consciousness of the whole church to the daily discipline of offering thanks to God.

By practicing the discipline of daily prayers and thanksgiving, you will be expressing your deepest faith in your thankfulness to God. And every cent you give, representing your thankful prayers today, is the dream for tomorrow's life and gives hope to people all over the world. In 2002, UTO awarded close to \$2.7 million in grants.

October 6 is UTO Sunday. Please consider giving a donation (you can put it in the Blue envelope you received in the UTO mailing.)



Episcopal Church Women's Events



Bake Sale

Needed - bakers looking to bake!!! Once again, the ECW is sponsoring a Fall Bake Sale on Sunday, October 20, after the 7:30 and 9:00 services. Please start gathering recipes for those goodies and drop them off on Saturday, October 19 between 9-10 AM and 4-5 p.m. Bring your appetite. Any questions, please call either Kathy Cook or Julie Feely.

Fall Deanery Day

Waukegan Fall Deanery Day is Wednesday, October 30th, 9:30 AM at St. Ann's in Woodstock. Come hear Mrs. Majkrzak talk on care for aging. Followed by communion and UTO ingathering. Contact Mary Quednau.



Coffee Hour

Coffee hour is one of those parts of our Sunday morning routine which offers a good chance to catch up with old friends and to make new ones. As such, we really value this time together and its importance to our fellowship.

Unfortunately, it is also one of those jobs that require a fair amount of effort on the part of hosts — and often a fair expense as well. The Vestry has been wrestling with how to make the burden of coffee hour a bit easier to bear. To that end, the Vestry has decided to fund expenses for coffee hour through the end of the year (up to \$50 per week). Hosts may submit receipts and be reimbursed.

This is not a permanent decision, just something we want to implement for a trial period. During the coming months, I'd like to hear from members of the parish. I'm interested in hearing what you have to say about the importance of our experience of coffee hour. There are two particular questions for which I'd like feedback: How do you feel about spending church funds on this activity? and how does parish funding of coffee hour impact your willingness to serve as host? This feedback will be valuable to me as I work with the Vestry to finalize our budget for the coming year.

And, lest I miss an opportunity to recruit, there's a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for anyone who'd like to volunteer to host coffee hour. Thank you in advance both for your input and your help.

Kathy Cook

NURSERY

The nursery is in the midst of a facelift. Slowly but surely the toys are getting cleaned, needs are being assessed and changes are being made to make the nursery the best and safest possible environment for our infants and toddlers.

The nursery is in need of some updating. That includes: new and safer toys, infant equipment (swings, bouncy seats and a playpen) and nursery supplies (antibacterial wipes, cleaning supplies, baby wipes, Kleenex, etc.). For this project, St. Lawrence Nursery is throwing a **NURSERY SHOWER** *for itself*. If you are shopping at Target or Home Depot anytime during the months of October and November, check the registry (listed under St. Lawrence) and bless the youngest members of our church with much-needed supplies to make their environment safe and enjoyable.

Additional help is needed in 3 areas:

1. Assisting with the nursery project by donating your time to help clean toys, paint, and reorganize.
2. If you have gently-used infant equipment (if useable, we will not need to register for these larger-ticket items)
3. If you know of anyone who would be a good candidate for Caregiver in the nursery on Sunday mornings from 8:45-12:15 PM.

Please see Jennifer Kanches or Lisa Bako if you are able to assist in anyway.

Vestry Actions

In addition to actions described in Hans Karnstedt's article (page 5), the Vestry undertook other important actions. At its September meeting, the Vestry elected delegates to this fall's Diocesan Convention. Mary-Jane Leewis-Kirk, Cecelia Secor and Court Williams were appointed as delegates, with Arch Ahern, Cathe McEnerney and Jeanne Neifert to serve as their alternates.

A Note from Deacons' School

Dear friends in Christ:

What's in a name? Mary-Jane Leewis-Kirk
This past June I became a citizen of the USA, Hurrah!! As a part of the process I was given the opportunity to change my name if I so wished. I have chosen to add my "Maiden" name to our family name. However, with respect to our families' European heritage I have chosen to add Kirk as a suffix. Kirk is a Celtic and Germanic name for worship place or church it seemed most appropriate to re-assume it at this time in my Diaconal journey. Deacon Vs Deaconess The order of Deaconess was initiated many years ago when women were not ordained however provided vital ministry to the church. The title and order is no longer in existence. Just as the title Bishop or Priest is used for one ordained to these ministries so the title Deacon is used also, for all persons ordained to the Diaconal order.

A Deacon is said to take the Church into the world and, to represent the needs and concerns of the world to the church. It's an active ministry, to and fro. Each morning I go to and fro to Aurora Sinai Medical Center in Milwaukee to represent Christ to the world of those who suffer in mind, body and Spirit. As of August 26, I have started a year of study to become a certified Hospital Chaplain. The one hour drive, each way, allows time for me to listen to music and reflect on the beauty of the country side. Sinai has afforded me the opportunity for a very diversified education in pastoral care, the program is highly rated. I give thanks for the support of my family at home and at St. Lawrence.

As of this writing I have completed all of the requirements for my ordination process and await the decision of the Deacon's council and Commission on Ministry along with their ultimate recommendations to Bishop Persell.

At School we will be half way through our final semester, studying "Pastoral Care III, issues of Power" and "Leadership". We are finding both of these classes challenging and applicable to the skills required by a Deacon to perform successful ministry to the people of Christ.

*Yours in Christ the Servant
Mary-Jane*

Choral Evensong, Potluck Set for Sunday, October 6

One of the most beautiful services in Anglican worship is the service of Choral Evensong. Long a staple of cathedrals and choir schools, many parishes are discovering for themselves the quiet, reverent simplicity of singing the evening office, and St. Lawrence is no exception! Please join us at 5:00 p.m. on October 6 for our first evensong of the season. Hymns and service music will be led by our choir and accompanied by organist/choirmaster Wendy Unrath Young. Incense will not be used at this service.

Following the parish hall! These events are wonderful ways to build community, and allow parishioners who attend one particular Sunday liturgy to get better acquainted with those who routinely attend a different service. Some help is needed for set-up and clean-up. Look for sign-up sheets for these duties, and plan to bring a dish to share.

Note: If you'd like to learn more about the history and practice of evensong, plan to attend the forum on Sunday morning, October 6!

Baptismal Feast Day

On the All Saints' Day (and on the Sunday following), we celebrate the Communion of Saints and our place as members of that vast communion of saints across time and space.

We are made with all the saints of God — past, present and yet to come — through baptism. Accordingly, our Prayer Book identifies All Saints' Sunday as one of those occasions especially appropriate for Baptisms.

If you are interested in having someone baptized on that Sunday (November 3rd), please speak with either Mother Cynthia or Father Jed, or call the church office at 847-362-2110.



Communications Ministry

Thank you to all who signed up for Communications activities at the Ministries Fair! We are excited about opportunities to make a difference at St. Lawrence! Here is an update about some of our projects.

Our New Website

The new St. Lawrence Website will be published on October 1, 2002. You can log on at www.stlawrencechurch.org. Please take a look at the website. The purpose is two-fold: to provide information about St. Lawrence to those who are not familiar with our church and who would like to learn more, and on a more limited basis, to provide certain information to existing parishioners. (The Church Street News, the insert from the Sunday Bulletin, and the Lay Ministry Schedule are to be published for the latter purpose. Now you can check the schedule on Saturday night, when you're not sure whether or not you're "on" the next AM!)

The website will be managed by the Website Committee, which consists of Erik Larson, Webmaster, Jeanne Lasheff, Barb Lewis, BJ Jones, Father Jed and Mother Cynthia. The committee makes decisions regarding the types of information which will or will not be published and approves website policies. The webmaster, Erik Larson, will implement the technology. (On a personal note, we are extremely lucky to have such wonderful talent to work on our website. Erik Larson is the Manager of College Web Services at Lake Forest College, and designs and manages websites for a living. He also has a Ph.D in Music Composition. Jeanne Lasheff is Director of Technical Engineering at Allegiance, and is a computer wizard, who has 150 "computer experts" reporting to her. Barb Lewis is an MBA from the University of Chicago. Many thanks to them for donating their talents to St. Lawrence.)

Any questions or suggestions regarding the website should be forwarded via e-mail to the website committee at the St. Lawrence e-mail address or by telephone to St. Lawrence. All communications or messages will be forwarded to the committee.

Please note that while pictures of parishioners at Church events and the bulletins/newsletters will be published, names of children, all address and phone numbers of parishioners will not be. Pictures of all and names of adult parishioners may be published. If any person objects to their name or picture appearing, please advise the committee in writing. Consent will be assumed absent written objection. Log on, and enjoy!

Other Communications Opportunities

Many thanks to those who have already signed up for the Communications Resource List and the Communications Focus Group. For those of you who have not signed up, there is still time.

Communications Resource List

HELP WANTED: crafty, or creative or techie or business minded or-none-of-the-above and just plain willing parishioners of any age (including kids) to work alone or in groups for one time projects on an "as needed" basis. The projects may include activities such as making a few posters, decorating a bulletin board, drafting a newspaper ad, or making phone calls.

THERE IS A STRICT "JUST SAY NO" POLICY! If you are called to help at a bad time for you. "Just say NO", no questions asked! And, if you are called once, that doesn't mean that we'll hound you again and again. PLEASE, PLEASE SIGN UP! THIS ONE IS EASY AND FUN!

Communications Focus Group

"CAN WE TALK?" Wanted: anyone who participates in St. Lawrence life (i.e. Sunday School teaching, ECW, Outreach, Altar Guild, and any other activity, formal or informal) who wants to help!

Let's figure out some better ways to communicate within and without St. Lawrence. Participate in a one time, 1 1/2 hour meeting (DATE TBA) led by a Communications Consultant who will help us to identify and address the communication needs of our community of faith! Thanks!

B J Jones

St. Lawrence Episcopal Church

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Address service requested

The Rev. Jedediah D. Holdorph II
Rector

The Rev. Cynthia J. Hallas
Associate Rector

The Rev. Maurice L. Strong III
Assisting Priest

**The Episcopal Church: www.ecusa.anglican.org
The Diocese of Chicago: www.episichicago.org
www.stlawrencechurch.org**

Sunday Service Schedule:

7:30 am..... Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:00 am..... Family Eucharist, Rite II
10:10 am Education for all ages
11:00 am Choral Eucharist, Rite II

*St. Lawrence Episcopal Church is a worshipping community of faith
in the Anglican tradition called by Christ:*

- to gather as an extended family open to all*
- to grow in the knowledge and love of God*
- and to embody that love in service to the world around us.*

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