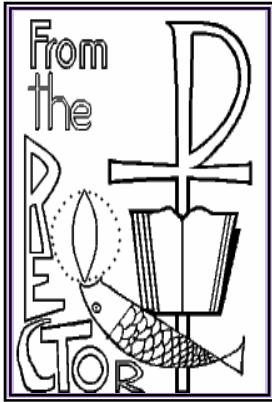


THE WAYFARER *August/September 2007*

A monthly journal for Christians who worship at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Berea, Ohio

Phone (440) 234-5241 E-mail: Stec1@sbcglobal.net



My dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

It finally rained today. After weeks of our lawn looking like it is the end of August instead of the middle of summer, it will be green again! All of creation is breathing an audible sign of relief. No one will mind that rain, no one will complain.

The relief that comes from rain in very dry weather is one more metaphor for our relationship with God. We are thirsty for God in our lives, we are parched and in need of healing rain. The psalmist says, "as a deer longs for running streams, so my soul longs for you!" The green that comes after the showers is a sign of the transformation that takes place in our lives when we let God in, of how we can blossom in the midst of God's great love.

Our Summer of Spirituality is well on the way. We have talked about our relationship with God, our relationship with the church, and how we ground that in prayer. We have had fun with gifts and Hawaiian shirt day, and we have celebrated each others' stories and opinions, as well as the faithfulness of our members on Recognition Sunday.

Now we move to the hardest question: how do we show this in our lives? Hopefully we are becoming more comfortable talking about God and talking with God. The challenge we face for the rest of August is considering how well other people know this is happening. What do we notice about ourselves and what do others see in us?

I hope you are chewing away at all of this, thirsty for more of God just as our dry lawns long for more rain. We will ask you what you think this fall. What do we need at St. Thomas to become closer to God, better at prayer, closer to the church and freer in our living all of that out? Raise questions, contemplate issues, talk to God and each other. Watch for opportunities to share what you are thinking and feeling! How exciting to build up the Body of Christ in this way!!!

May we always be moving closer to God and each other,

Gayle+



**- from the
Warden's Patio**

**“WALKING ON THE
DISCIPLES’ PATH”
at St. Thomas**

Greetings everyone! I hope your summer is going well and that you’ve avoided poison ivy so far. My wife, Bonnie, has suffered TWO bouts with it, the second worst than the first. Two doctor visits and four

prescriptions later, she is still itching.

At St. Thomas, we’ve had two fine Sunday celebrations: “*Hawaiian Shirt Day*” and “*50+ Years Recognition Day.*” Wasn’t it wonderful to see so many of our longest-serving members receive the parish’s commendation? What a joy for all involved!

You see at the top of this column our *Stewardship Theme for 2008*. We are all certainly “walking on the disciples' path” as we journey through life, aren’t we? You’re going to be hearing a lot more about not only the theme but our financial situation and the challenges and opportunities we face as a community going forward.

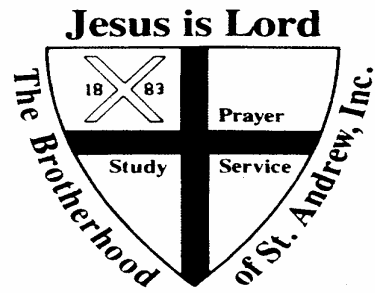
One important aspect of thinking about stewardship is the idea of “*Proportional Giving.*” That is, giving back to God a portion of our livelihood – as much as we can afford. Or, you might look at this matter in *reverse*: how much can you afford *not* to give back to the God who showers you with blessings every day of your life?

Proportional Giving, then, is setting aside a percentage of one’s income to go to God’s church and/or other causes with which we believe God finds favor. The Holy Bible tells us that the amount for believers to give back to God should be *ten percent (called a “Tithe”)*; a gift of “the first fruits” of one’s labor. The Episcopal Church has made this the goal to be strived for by the people of the church. Obviously, depending upon where you are “on the disciples' path”, you may not be able to give a full ten percent to your church at the present time. *And that’s OK*: as long as you are *working towards increasing* the percentage of your blessings given back to the church, you are walking that holy path we all want to walk on.

In the weeks ahead you’ll be hearing more about all of this, but in the meantime please give some serious thought to where your level of proportional giving is *now* and *where you want it to be next year* as we march forward doing our Lord’s work at St. Thomas.

And enjoy the remainder of “Summer 2007!”

**- Dave Warburton,
Senior Warden**



The next meeting of the Brotherhood will be August 18th at 9:30 am at St. Thomas. All men, young and old, are welcome; meet with your fellow men of St. Thomas. We are a prayer-driven group. Learn to have a closer

**The Brotherhood
of St. Andrew**

relationship with God. Meetings last no longer that one hour. For more information, contact Dave Miller or attend the next meeting on August 18th.



Ambassadors for Christ

The Ambassadors for Christ and other parishioners/supporters representing St. Thomas walked in the Strongsville Parade on July 18th. We had a strong showing with 21 people. We gave out over 1600 bookmarks and bags and bags of candy to parade watchers along the route. A special “Thank You” to Tom Halliday for supplying the candy, Pat Wielinski for making hundreds of bookmarks, Peggy Zambounis (aka Mario Andretti) for driving in the parade and transporting the walkers, and Anita Coleman for securing parking. It was a fun night of camaraderie. You won’t want to miss it next year. Thanks to everyone who participated - you did a fantastic job of representing St. Thomas!



The MOST and Ambassadors for Christ

The MOST (Men of St. Thomas) and the Ambassadors for Christ are going to host an Ice Cream Social and Youth Car Wash. The event is tentatively planned for Sunday, August 19th from 2:00 - 4:00. This will be a community event, so please bring your friends, neighbors, appetite, and a dirty car. A free-will offering will be accepted for the ice cream and car wash. More to follow, so watch the Sunday bulletins.

--Laura Pinney, Ambassadors for Christ

OUR ANGLICAN HERITAGE

The Reign of Charles I: a Steady Descent into Civil War

Greetings everyone! Imagine my shock when I was “text messaged” by The Editor to inform me that my next lesson was required by July 20th! Whatever happened to the days when the fall term commenced *after* Labor Day? I judge the decline in academic standards in this country to the date when this folly was instituted by an errant collegiate community. I shall have to query the A.A.U.P. on my contractual obligations in this matter.

Nevertheless, although the jolt of the message separated me from my summer hammock (and *Bahama Mamma*) with a loud thump, fine chap that I am, I sallied forth to my keyboard to prepare this lesson for you.

I trust your gratitude will be shown at Christmas.

Charles Stuart I was dealt a bad hand by history: a staunch supporter of “the divine right of kings” in an age of increasing distrust of “old ways” and the “old order,” and cursed with a stubbornness which trumped any thought of compromise with his political opponents, the king found himself on shakier ground as the years of his reign slipped by. And yet he did nothing to ameliorate the situation. In fact, almost everything he attempted to do made matters progressively worse.

Beginning in 1629 when he dissolved Parliament, Charles ruled by royal decree. In 1633, he was given the opportunity to appoint a new Archbishop of Canterbury, and he chose William Laud, then Bishop of London. While history would judge this new primate as one of the great archbishops of the church, his “high church” ways and devotion to the king did nothing to lessen the growing outrage amongst the Puritan Party at all things “Anglican” or “established church.”

Ironically, Charles’ first real ecclesiastical challenge came from -- of all places -- Scotland. In 1630, Charles had Laud introduce a new *Book of Common Prayer* in that northern kingdom, to try to force its increasingly protestant usage back into conformity with English practice. Unfortunately, the new book caused such an uproar (it was thought to be more “catholic” than the English book) that riots occurred in a number of cities. Cries of “the Mass is entered among us!” were raised at St. Gile’s Church in Edinburgh. (As an historical aside, our own American prayer book owes much to this Scottish version!) In any event, its forced introduction resulted in -- quite the opposite of what Charles and Laud had hoped for -- a vote by the Scottish Assembly to

reject both the new prayer book *and* the Anglican episcopacy altogether. Of course, Charles would have none of this insolence, and in 1639 war broke out between his native and adopted countries.

Charles needed a Parliament now: he had a war with Scotland to fight and required money to raise an army. So in early 1640 (after eleven long years), he called a new Parliament for only a few days to give him that financial backing. This “*short parliament*” did vote funds for war, but the bad taste left in the Parliament members’ mouths by the king’s heavy-handed treatment would linger in the coming months as the state began to wobble on its very axis.



Ministry Opportunity

Do you enjoy working with children? We are in desperate need of Sunday School teachers. Might God be calling you to this ministry??? Please talk to Gayle if you are interested.



St. Thomas is Seeking a Childcare Provider

That’s right! St. Thomas is the recipient of a Childcare Grant and we are going right to you - our parishioners - to find that person. Sometimes word-of-mouth brings the best candidates - especially as far as our children are concerned. If you might know someone interested in providing childcare during the Sunday services, contact Gayle for further information! Please no parishioners!



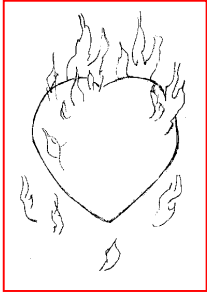
Don’t forget to include St. Thomas in your will and estate planning.



YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY

Interested in building community through a young adults ministry? Want to grow in likeness of Christ with other brothers and sisters at St. Thomas? Then come to a potluck dinner at the church at 6 pm on Friday, August 17, 2007 as we kick-start this ministry at the church. It will be an evening of food, fellowship and fun, as we discuss this ministry with a starting date in September. For questions contact Eric at 440-234-7621.

FROM THE HEART OF THE PARISH



- ❖ Congratulations to all of the parishioners who were honored for 50 or more years with our St. Thomas family! Be sure to fill out the card to let us know when you joined.....there will be more honors in the

future.

- ❖ Welcome back to Andrew and Amy. Andrew Kilgore has been through many health issues, but is looking the picture of health. Prayers are powerful.
- ❖ Welcome back to the Molmens! We will be anxious to hear and hopefully to see pictures of their nine months of service in Liberia.
- ❖ Dave Warburton had lunch with Sue Donohoe. She misses us, but is busy getting ready for her daughter's clog dancing competition in Rochester, N.Y.
- ❖ Lou Hardman traveled to Frankenmuth, Michigan to attend the wedding of her grandson, Michael Holder, on July 28th.
- ❖ Dave Warburton's son Matt and his girlfriend Melissa met up with some high school friends while in Italy and are touring the wine country of Tuscany.
- ❖ St. Thomas night at the ballpark was a roaring success. It was well attended, the Indians won in the ninth and there were fireworks...can't ask for more than that!
- ❖ Bart Hancock will be taking some of our youth to Kentucky for a work week. Among those going are Ascia Hancock-Phillips, Katie, Philip, Tim and Martin McGuire, and Kyle Winfield.
- ❖ Thanks to all the waterers (a big job in this drought) and to our weeders...nothing seems to get rid of weeds except a good yank by a willing hand.
- ❖ Prayers for Ken (Jim) Morgan and for his family. Ken was to be one of the fifty year honorees. Ken passed away on July 14th as the result of a fall.
- ❖ Prayers for Debbi and Tim Huffman who are recovering from a car accident.
- ❖ Prayers for Lou Hardman's daughter, Linda Holder, who has problems resulting from gallbladder surgery.

- Dody Sandt



BIKIN' 'N' BAKIN' NEWS

The St. Thomas Bikin' 'N' Bakin' Society will end the summer season with the traditional Labor Day ride with breakfast on September 3. Bikers will meet at 7:30 a.m. at the overlook in the park, near the park entrance off Barrett Road just north of Bagley Road. We'll ride through the park to Detroit Road, then over to Rocky River Park on the lake shore (total distance about 15 miles). Breakfasters will meet at 8:45 a.m. at the park. After breakfast, we ride back to the overlook. Note: some riders prefer a shorter ride and meet us along the bike trail part way to Detroit Road. Others may prefer to ride only one way and arrange transportation back from Rocky River Park.

If you plan to ride please see or call Bob Englund (440-243-4098). If you'd like to join us for breakfast, call Mary Lee Stowell/Peggy Zambounis (440-234-1006), and help plan our menu.

This is one of the more popular activities of the St. Thomas family. Newcomers, give it a try - and everyone pray for good weather, not like what happened on July 4! Note: In case of rain we meet at the church for breakfast



Episcopal Church Women

ECW members in St. Thomas are dedicated to serving the church in various ministries. There is at least one member in every ministry and outreach at St. Thomas with the exception being Men of St. Thomas (MOST) and the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. Our Logo has four parts: The Cross which represents Christ and our service to Him in the world; the Circle which stands for our hope for the wholeness in our lives; the out-flowing lines from the center depict the many works of Episcopal Church Women going out into the world; and the intertwined lines represent our lives centered in Christ. This Logo sums up the mission, vision and goals of our ministry.

The ECW, in which all women of the church are members, meets the first Saturday of the month with the exception of September, when the meeting will be September 8th, at 9:30 A.M. We do not meet as a group during the summer months. Please circle the date and find out what we do as an organization.

Summer is almost over and our thoughts turn to fall and winter. The next big event the ECW is having is a High Tea and Fashion Show, which will be held on November 10th at 3:00pm. Tickets are \$10.00 per person. Coldwater Creek will be presenting their winter and Christmas fashions, using models from St. Thomas.

--Sonia Miller, President

HEALTH MINISTRY
Psalms 40:17 “May the Lord think of me”

You wouldn't expect to stay physically fit without regular exercise, so why would you expect your mind to stay nimble if you're not regularly putting it through a workout? Research is showing that aging doesn't automatically result in the steady attrition of brain cells. Rather, older adults who work their brains not only can develop new connections between brain cells, but may even be able to grow new ones. In addition, your overall health can have an enormous impact on the health of your brain. Using your mind in a wide variety of new and challenging ways activates cells throughout your brain. It also allows you to practice skills of mental sharpness such as concentration, focus and memory recall.

Working the left brain (language skills, logical thinking, reasoning and numbers): Reading, writing, learning a new language, completing number or word games, doing your taxes, balancing your checkbook without a calculator and fixing broken objects are left-brain activities.

Working the right brain (spatial, imaginative, artistic skills, music, art): Ease into artistic pursuit by taking a beginner's art class, reviving a musical talent, joining a choir, making a wooden bookshelf, knitting or quilting.

Other activities that help:

Breaking a routine: Challenge your brain with a new activity.

Remembering or memorizing something: Think of a nearly forgotten story from your youth and write it down. Prompt your memory by remembering associated details, such as recalling the house or neighborhood you lived in, or the names of friends. Memorize phone numbers, a grocery list, the words to a poem or song, or people's names. When you want to remember facts or ideas, talk about them and formulate your own opinions (e.g., think of a way to summarize the main ideas of a book you've just finished and use that summary in a conversation).

Trying meditation: This activates the parts of the brain associated with happiness and contentment, and reduces stress and anxiety.

Engaging in social activity: Engaging in conversation or activity with a wide variety of people can be one of the most complex and varied tasks that your mind undertakes. Studies have linked social engagement to the reduction in mental decline.

Optimal brain health is about giving your mind an optimal environment. Do this by staying physically active, sleeping well, eating healthy, managing stress, and managing medical problems.

Research has yet to determine whether an active mind puts you at lower risk of dementia or Alzheimer's disease, though it does appear to have some impact. But the possibility of preventing disease is only one part of keeping your mind in top condition. The other is about living an active and fulfilling life.

Submitted by Barb Emigh RN; taken from [Mayo Clinic Health Letter July 2007](#) “Staying Mentally Sharp”



SURVEY OF NEW MEMBERS

The Ambassadors for Christ recently sent out a survey to the newest members of St. Thomas to find out more about their initial experience at St. Thomas. The Ambassadors also wanted more information about what kept newcomers coming back.

It was found that for the most part, St. Thomas is a very warm and welcoming church! The majority of survey respondents said that they were greeted warmly on their first visit to St. Thomas. Many stated that on follow up visits to services, they were greeted by name and were offered coffee after the service.

How uplifting that our newest Parishioners specifically mentioned by name the welcome they received from Scott Munson, Tom and Barb Halliday, Sandy Gardner, and Jan & Bev Smith when attending services for the first time! A big thank you to these members, you've left quite an impression!

What can we all do to keep new visitors “coming back for more”?

- ❖ Consistently greet every visitor you see at Services. Remember, this week's visitor might next week's new member!
- ❖ Be intentional about showing visitors to the area where we have coffee. Once inside Harkess Hall, make it a point to introduce visitors around to others having coffee. Make sure that newcomers aren't sitting or standing alone – include them in your coffee circle!
- ❖ Take it upon yourself to connect visitors at coffee with people you know that are involved in St. Thomas groups such as Men Of Saint Thomas (MOST), Daughters of the King (DOK), Ambassadors for Christ, Episcopal Church Women (ECW), St. Thomas Adult Recreation (STAR), etc. so that visitors can get a flavor of how busy and life-filled our church is!

To keep St. Thomas the growing and vibrant church it is, we must all do our part to be welcoming and inclusive to all newcomers and visitors. Take a moment to chat with visitors, let them know how excited and involved you are with St. Thomas!

Thank you to those who took the time to complete the survey. This helps us identify what we are doing right and what we need to improve on to provide a welcoming church home to all who come here.

--Ambassadors for Christ



KNOW YOUR ST. THOMAS FAMILY Debbi Huffman, Parish Administrator



Debbi was born in Cleveland, grew up in Brook Park and graduated from Padua Franciscan High School. Debbi then became a paralegal and worked until 1997 when she took some time off to have a family. In 2004, she

resumed her career as a paralegal, but lucky for us, decided not to continue in that field.

The Last Chance Saloon provided the perfect spot for country music fan Debbi, because that is where she met the man who was to become her husband. Debbi and Tim were married on September 19, 2004 at Music Mound in the Metroparks here in Berea. Of course, their reception was held at The Last Chance Saloon! Debbi and Tim have a combined family. Debbi has Joshua (14), Caitlin (10), Jordan (8) and Rebekah (7). Tim's children are Brad (13), Max (8) and Mathew (5).

Debbi and Tim host a Karaoke Night every Saturday at the Berea Eagles Hall. When Debbi has time out from her busy schedule she enjoys spending time with her children, cooking, working in her garden and volunteering at her children's school, Riveredge Elementary.

Debbi is a member of The Church of the Advent, the Episcopal parish in Westlake. We welcome Debbi into our St. Thomas family and we feel very fortunate that she was led to be our new Administrator. Stop in the office, Debbi would love to meet you!

--Dody Sandt



LOS AMIGOS EPISCOPALES



Do join us for an evening of music, dancing, and festive fun at the Los Amigos dance on Friday, October 19, at 7:00pm in Cathedral Hall at Trinity Cathedral. This is a benefit for the schools in El Salvador and we need you all to come dance with us. Tickets (only \$20 each) will be available at the end of July from our members. The next meeting of Los Amigos is Friday, August 10 at

6:30 in Harkess Hall. This is a potluck, but newcomers are our guests. Final plans will be in the making for our coming October event. See you there!

- Ruth F. Ihde



...from the Layweedeers...

Thank you and welcome to three new layweedeers to the Landscape Committee. Frank Scrant, Nicole Wiltrout, and Tom Wood have been added to the rotation schedule of weeding and watering. Because of the dry summer, we have had to water more frequently to keep our gardens looking as beautiful as possible and we really needed help. Along with the dedication and hard work of Anita Coleman, Pat Wielinski, Bev Smith, Laura D'Amato, and Al Amos, I'd say we can be very proud of our church grounds.

-Alice Amos



- from the Editor

Finally – some much needed rain! Pray that we continue to have additional rainfall to ease the pain of the drought.

Thanks to everyone who contributed articles for this edition. The deadline was moved up, so I'm especially grateful for their cooperation. Debbi Huffman, our new office administrator, did a great job of formatting and running off the copies! All of the volunteers who assemble the Wayfarer are also very much appreciated!!

Elizabeth Warburton is this month's Postal Patron. This gift helps defray the costs associated with printing and mailing the Wayfarer. Thank you for this generous donation, Elizabeth!

*Please consider being a Postal Patron! We need your help as there are **no more** patrons lined up for the next several issues! If you are interested in being a Postal Patron, the cost is \$50. Contact me (stecwayfarer@sbcglobal.net) or see Debbi in the office for more information.*

Additionally, you can help reduce the costs associated with the Wayfarer by remembering to pick up your print copy at church. Better yet, you can sign up to receive the Wayfarer by email (this version is in color)! Thanks to all those who have recently subscribed to the email version of the Wayfarer.

Enjoy your August and September. We'll be back with another Wayfarer in October!

--Laura D'Amato

St. Thomas Vestry Members

Dave Warburton - Senior Warden

R. Janney Smith - Junior Warden

Elaine Willis - Clerk

Gary Cline

Joan Foster

Tom Halliday

Becky Shank

Troy Thomas

Lynn Vincent

The Rev. Gayle Catinella (Rector)

Tim Cooper (Treasurer)

ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH – AUGUST 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:00 Women's AA Meeting	2 10:00 Midweek Eucharist 7:30 AI Anon	3	4 Parish Work Day 9:00 am to Noon
5 Tenth Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 Rite I at Church 10:00 Rite II at Berea Children's Farm PARISH PICNIC	6 7:00 Closed AA Meeting	7 6:00 Centering Prayer Service 7:00 Foster Parenting Meeting	8 Confirmation Class Cathedral Tour 6:00 - 8:00 pm 8:00 Women's AA Meeting	9 10:00 Midweek Eucharist 7:30 AI Anon	10 6:30 Los Amigos Episcopales	11
12 Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 Rite I 9:30 Rite II 10:30 Coffee Hour	13 7:00 Closed AA Meeting	14	15 8:00 Women's AA Meeting	16 10:00 Midweek Eucharist 7:30 AI Anon	17 6:00 Young Adult Ministry Meeting	18 Brotherhood of St. Andrew 9:30 am Ice Cream Social and Car Wash
19 Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 Rite I 9:30 Rite II with Baptism 10:30 Coffee Hour 2:00 Nursing Home Serv.	20 7:00 Closed AA Meeting	21	22 8:00 Women's AA Meeting	23 10:00 Midweek Eucharist 7:30 AI Anon	24	25
26 Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 Rite I 9:30 Rite II 10:30 Coffee Hour 6:00 pm Campus Ministry	27 7:00 Closed AA Meeting	28 6:00 Healing Prayer Service	29 8:00 Women's AA Meeting 5:30 Berea Community Meal 7:30 Vestry Meeting	30 10:00 Midweek Eucharist 7:30 AI Anon	31	

ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH – SEPTEMBER 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Parish Work Day 9:00 am to Noon
2 Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 Rite I 9:00 Parish Breakfast 9:30 Rite II 10:30 Coffee Hour 6:00 pm Campus Ministry	3 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED Bikin' 'N' Bakin' 7:00 Closed AA Meeting	4 6:00 Centering Prayer Service 7:00 Foster Parenting Meeting	5 8:00 Women's AA Meeting	6 10:00 Midweek Eucharist 7:30 Al Anon	7	8 Spiritual Formation Program 9:30 am to 4:30 pm
9 Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 Rite I 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 Rite II 11:30 Coffee Hour 5:30 Contemporary Worship 6:00 pm Campus Ministry Berea Arts Festival 10:00 am to 5:00 pm	10 7:00 Closed AA Meeting	11	12	13 10:00 Midweek Eucharist 7:30 Al Anon	14 6:30 Los Amigos Episcopales	15 Brotherhood of St. Andrew 9:30 am Trinity Cathedral Centennial Celebration
16 Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 Rite I 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:30 Rite II 11:30 Coffee Hour 11:30 am Adult Forum 2:00 Nursing Home Serv. 5:30 Contemporary Worship 6:00 pm Campus Ministry	17 7:00 Closed AA Meeting	18 6:00 Healing Prayer Service	19 8:00 Women's AA Meeting	20 10:00 Midweek Eucharist 7:30 Al Anon	21	22

ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH – SEPTEMBER 2007, cont.

23 Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 Rite I 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 Rite II 11:30 Coffee Hour 5:30 Contemporary Worship 6:00 pm Campus Ministry	24 7:00 Closed AA Meeting	25	26 8:00 Women's AA Meeting	27 10:00 Midweek Eucharist 7:30 Al Anon	28	29 Spiritual Formation Program 9:30 am to 4:30 pm Adult Forum Movie Night 7:30 pm
30 Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 Rite I 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 Rite II 11:30 Coffee Hour 5:30 Contemporary Worship 6:00 pm Campus Ministry						

ADULT FORUM SCHEDULE, FALL 2007...

PLEASE REVIEW THIS SCHEDULE CAREFULLY, AS WE ARE DOING THINGS A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY THIS YEAR. MAKE SPECIAL NOTE OF THE DIFFERENT DAYS OF THE WEEK AND TIMES FOR EVENTS.

Sunday, September 16: Meet your senior warden. Come ask questions about the state of the parish. Sessions at 9:15 and 11:30. Adult Forum Room.

Saturday, September 29: Movie Night! Bring snacks and popcorn. We will watch a movie and then theologically reflect. Any ideas?? We will start the movie at 7:30.

Sunday, October 7: The Nicene Creed. What do you believe??? Over soup and bread we will discuss what we think about this challenging statement of faith. Noon!

Tuesday, October 23: Political Reporting. Linda Kinsey will talk about how the media tells us about the candidates and issues in an election. 7:30 in Adult Forum Room.

Friday, November 2nd: Book Club--Historical Fiction. Bring your favorite book of historical fiction and let's talk about what we learn from it. Bring hors d'oeuvres and a beverage of your choice!! 7:30 pm.



**The next time you feel like God can't use you
in one of the ministries here at St. Thomas, just remember...**

- Noah had a problem with alcohol
- Abraham was too old
- Isaac was a daydreamer
- Jacob was a liar
- Moses had a stuttering problem
- Gideon was afraid
- Samson had long hair and was a womanizer
- Jeremiah and Timothy were too young
- David had an affair and was a murderer
- Paul was too religious
- Elijah was suicidal
- Naomi was a widow
- Job went bankrupt
- Peter denied Christ
- The disciples fell asleep while praying
- Martha worried about everything
- The Samaritan woman was divorced more than once
- Zaccheus was too small
- Lazarus was dead!! (No more excuses now!!)

**Only God can use you to your full potential. Besides, you aren't the message, you are just the messenger.
God is waiting for you to let Him use you to your full potential...
why not take some of the quiet, relaxing time during the summer
to consider getting involved in a ministry in the fall!**

ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
50 EAST BAGLEY RD.
BEREA, OHIO 44017

