

THE WAYFARER

October 2008 Issue

A monthly journal for Christians who worship at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Berea, Ohio
Phone (440) 234-5241 E-mail: Stec1@sbcglobal.net

Rector's Musings...

I have been fascinated by heirloom tomatoes. Even Giant Eagle has them these days, but the most beautiful and varied ones are at the Farmers' Markets and farm stands that dot the rural roads. There are so many colors and tastes. And what strikes me about them is that they are so real, so rooted (so to speak) in history, and so necessary to the survival of all tomatoes. They are what preceded the light red, uniform, not very tasty tomatoes that we get at the supermarket in December. They are the ancestors. And without the variety and diversity they provide to the species, tomatoes as we know them might not survive.

The thing about these tomatoes is that they take more work. They do not grow uniformly, they are not resistant to all pests, they might need more water or a different mix of soil. You have to be more intentional about nurturing them to maturity. But boy do they taste good! They just melt in your mouth. They are worth it!

I think St. Thomas is also an heirloom. It is a way of being together in community and worshipping Jesus Christ that has had value throughout many years. It is rooted in the profound and awesome mysteries and practices of our faith. It changes people's lives in ways we don't always understand.

But like anything that isn't processed and changed into something so easy that it is meaningless, this church takes work. It takes prayer and time and talent and money. You will be asked by our stewardship team to pray about

how this plays out in your own life. St. Thomas is a precious treasure. Let's be open to God's will for how we are to support and maintain it!

God bless you for your generosity and hard work! Love, Gayle+

FROM THE WARDEN'S DEN...

Complacency or Renewal?

OK, so name something good *complacency* has ever brought anybody. Go ahead, name something.

When I look hard at the challenges we face at St. Thomas these days (and, boy, do I look a lot), the word that keeps haunting me is *complacency*. No matter where my thoughts scatter to, when I re-gather them, it's the one word that describes the reason behind this accumulation of problems facing our parish.

Somewhere along the line (I think May 6, 1997), we became complacent. (Just kidding about the date, of course.) But somewhere along the line, slowly over time we stopped doing the things any institution *must* do to remain viable, let alone vital.

We *didn't* actively seek out new members enough.
We *didn't* plan far enough ahead – *didn't* try to project where we needed to go.
We *didn't* increase our giving – in time & talent & dollars - enough to make positive things happen they way they needed to.

The list is longer, but I won't go on. In short, we just stopped doing what we needed to do – what we are called to do as followers of Jesus Christ – to carry St. Thomas into this new, strange, frightening and yet exciting period we call "*The Twenty-first Century*."

Those churches (of any denomination) that have made the adjustment to the new economic, social, religious and cultural realities of our world have tended to do well. Strangely, those who refused to make *any* concessions to modernity and locked themselves away from the real world have also often tended to do pretty well, for there will always be a few who don't want any part of the real world and prefer to hoard the past as though it is some kind of treasure in itself.

Churches like ours who have tried to dip our toes into the waters of change (and often not too convincingly) have tended to fare poorly in terms of growth. And, yes, I have seen the studies that prove my points. I guess you could say that people appreciate conviction one way or the other, and perhaps that is what we *really* need most.

The antidote for complacency is, of course, renewal. And so I must ask you: are *you* ready to commit yourself to *renew* your faith in God and your fellow sojourners here

at St. Thomas? Are *you* ready to do the heavy lifting necessary to make it work?

God's harvest is always plentiful, isn't it?
Will the laborers at St. Thomas be many or few?
What do *you* say?? We need your answer NOW.

-- SW Dave Warburton

Parish Renewal 2008!

*The kickoff has begun with
the Ministry Scavenger
Hunt!*



Schedule of Events:

10/12 Talent Shows - Watch for your favorite ministries as they show us their talents during the announcement times, then be sure to get more information from them after the service.

10/26 Spin the Ministry Wheel - Win great prizes!! Sign up to road test some of the fabulous ministries at St. Thomas!!!

11/9 Renewal Sunday - Join us for breakfast between the services. Turn in your pledge card to let us know what you'll give in 2009 of your time, talent and treasure! The winner of the scavenger hunt will be revealed!!!

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From the Junior Warden...



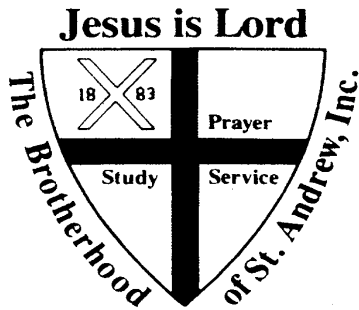
A huge thank you to the members of the Landscape committee for all the work that was accomplished over the summer. There are many who weeded, watered and planted;

and those who dug up old gardens and replanted; and those who mulched, trimmed shrubs and put in the stepping stone path to the front entrance. Your dedication is appreciated by all!

Another huge thank you to the several men who repair, fix, paint and solve the problems of an aging building. We are blessed to have such talented people with so much knowledge, and certainly makes my job so much easier.

Alice Amos

To all men of St. Thomas:



The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is looking for all men of St. Thomas to join us on each 3rd Saturday of the month at 9:30 A.M. for our fellowship meetings. It is a time of fellowship, prayer and projects. Please join us.

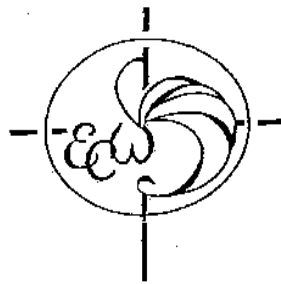
The Brotherhood of St. Andrew

Contact Dave Miller or the church for more information. Hope to see you !



Episcopal Church Women

The first ECW meeting of our year was held on September 6, 2008. At that meeting, our Vice President, Barb Pertz, presented the calendar of events for the upcoming year.



- ❖ October 4th, we will visit Lakeview Cemetery, which is one of the finest in the nation, followed by lunch at Mama Santa's.
- ❖ November 1 will be a business meeting
- ❖ Bake and Craft sale is scheduled for December 7, 2008; therefore, there will not be a business meeting in December.
- ❖ No Meeting is scheduled for January
- ❖ The theme for February 7, 2009, meeting is Safety Awareness. A representative from

the Berea Police Department will be the presenter.

- ❖ A Big Surprise is planned for the March 7, 2009, meeting.
- ❖ April 2-3 is our Annual Rummage Sale therefore, no business meeting this month.

If you wish to join us on the visit to Lakeview Cemetery, please contact me at 440-826-1652 or Barb Pertz at 440-243 6120 All women of the church are welcome.

-- Sonia Miller, President

Los Amigos Episcopales - Our final preparation for our dance will be the meeting on Friday, October 10 at 7:00pm with coffee and dessert in Harkess Hall. The business meeting follows. See you there! Below is the dance information:

Noche de Amigos

An evening of Anglo & Latin music & dancing



BENEFIT DANCE FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN IN EL SALVADOR

When: Friday, October 17, 2008 7:00 - 11:00 pm

Where: Cathedral Hall, Trinity Cathedral East 22nd & Euclid Ave.

(Free parking via Prospect Ave.)

Tickets: Adults - \$20 Students under 12 - \$10

For tickets, please call:

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Ruth Ihde | 440-572-9425 |
| Connie Hanson | 216-283-4896 |
| Victor Jimenez | 216-338-2948 |

Music by DJ Vic, Salsa dance instruction, refreshments, cash bar.

Sponsored by **Los Amigos Episcopales**

- Ruth F. Ihde



**BIKIN' 'N' BAKIN'
LABOR DAY,
SEPT. 1**

The 2008 season ended with great weather for the Labor



Day ride and we had eleven riders and many more breakfasters. Look for a group photo taken at the park.

Next year Tim Cooper will take over the management of the Bikin' part of this activity. After roughly 25 years of gathering riders, it is time for me to retire and act my age.

Bob Englund

Youth Group

October 13: TORCH 12:45

October 19: Ice Skating 12 -2
Lunch at the Clines

October 24: DYE
Stay tuned for more info!!!

Campus Ministry

The beginning of the school year found Chris Molmen, Dody Sandt and Eric Kluth handing out various food and fun items to students as they walked to class. Each person got a colorful schedule so they know when the meals are. Our numbers have been great this year. But we need your help. Please volunteer to bring all or part of a meal some Sunday!!! We really appreciate it!

He gave out free food...



...and so do we!



OUTREACH

October is Blanket Month
Blanket Downtown with Love!

We will be collecting blankets during the month of October for distribution to the homeless through St. Luke's Church, Cleveland. Perhaps you have a surplus

in the attic or in the closet or cedar chest. If you are going to buy new, shop the sales. Someone suggested buying fleece at the fabric store and sewing the binding on, so if you are handy with the sewing machine, you might want to do that. But whichever way you choose, please bring blankets each time you come to church. You are always so generous with every request we make, and we are extremely grateful. Thank you.

- Pat Wielinski

From our Seminarian.....

Hello Everyone, I hope this finds you well and everyone had a great summer and enjoying what is left of it. (Still not over in my eyes, maybe a little denial). Well, the cooling temperatures mean festivals, football, changing leaves and for me school. So I wanted to continually thank all of you at St. Thomas for your support and prayers during my educational journey. This is my last full year at school (Woo Hoo!) as I look to graduate in the summer or fall of 2009. This quarter I am going to be taking Greek, Evangelism and Christian Theology II. Last quarter and year went well. I finished the quarter well as the cohort ended, which included 30 weeks of classes in the morning and small groups in the afternoon once a week. It was a great way to build community. That quarter dealt with counseling. I enjoyed that area of ministry. I also took a Monastic Spirituality class that was amazing. We not only talked about ideas from the desert fathers and monastic life, we also went to a Taize service and visited St. Andrew Abbey, a Benedictine Monastery in Cleveland. It was awesome and I strongly suggest a visit. It is on Buckeye Road, near MLK, right next to St. Benedictine High School. They are great and it is an educational and spiritual experience. You can even go there on retreat if you want. I finished school with Old Testament II and the prophets. It was a great class in understanding the writing of the prophets of their time and how they relate to us today. Some strong stuff. Once again, I thank you and will see you around church (when I'm not studying haha!)



God Bless
Eric Kluth



Millennium Development Goals

- It is a challenging task to write about the 0.7% of our available funds that we should be dedicating to these very important worldwide goals, when we have suffered from so

many natural disasters in the US this year (flooding in Iowa, Hurricane Gustav, Hurricane Ike from Texas to Ohio and beyond, to name a few). Therefore, I am postponing in-depth discussion at this time. However, we will be speaking with Sunday School students beginning the first Sunday in October, and we will have MDG "mite boxes" for them, so that they may become a part of it all. More information will be given to students and parents at that time.

- Ruth F. Ihde



From the Heart of the Parish...

γ Congratulations to Martin McGuire and his teammates!! After two overtimes and a sudden-death shootout, the Strongsville United soccer team won the Dublin, Ohio Charity Cup soccer tournament! Way to go, Martin!!



γ Congratulations to the following choir members who received Loyal Service Medals during the Blessing of the Choir: Nancy Braford - 44 years, Betsy Linville - 50 years and Jan Smith - 43 years. Thank you for your wonderful service to St. Thomas!!

γ The first week of college can be a stressful time, but members of our congregation have been passing out candy, colorful slinky toys, notice of our Sunday night suppers and other fun things to B.W. students on their way to class. There were 15 new students at our first Sunday night supper! We need folks to sign up for any part of a meal.

γ Katie Cline, Susanna Bender, Dan Rice, Jacob McGuire, Matt Furlong, Chris Molmen, and Will Kerbush are all back to college. Here's to a great year for all of them!

γ Congratulations to Jesse and Joan Papp on the birth of their son, Nathan Samuel, on Sept. 3, 2008.

γ Prayers for Ellen Schleger, who has been transferred from assisted living to the Rae-Ann Suburban nursing home facility in Westlake.

γ Prayers for Larry Reinhard. He will receive a stint for heart blockages on September 23rd at the Cleveland Clinic.

γ Continuing prayers for Gladys Calderwood and Scott Munson, Sr.



STAR News

S.T.A.R. (St. Thomas Adult Recreation) is off to a grand beginning! Our next programs will be:



October 1, 12:15P.M.:
The B-W Jazztet followed by a free lunch of brats, beans, salad and desserts.

November 5, 12:15 P.M.: Prelude to music theatre production of PARADE followed by lunch of vegetable soup and apple dumplings.

December 3, 12:15 P.M.: Performance from the String/Piano Department, followed by lunch of rigatoni, salad, bread sticks, and canolis.

Please be sure to **make your reservation** by calling the church office at least two days prior to the program (440-234-5241).

And we can always use more desserts! If you are attending and can bake, too, just drop off your goodies in the church kitchen prior to the concert. Thanks!

We look forward to seeing you for wonderful musical programs followed by fun fellowship at lunch!



HEALTH MINISTRY

Haggai 1:6-7 *"Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink ...Thus sayeth the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways."*

Our relationships have a huge impact on our eating habits. So what happens when one person wants to start eating better? Eating habits are deeply ingrained and often unconscious. The best place to start is to explain to your partner or family why you want to eat better; whether it's to pave the way for long-term health, improve energy levels, or attain a healthy weight. Clarifying your motives can help others feel less threatened, especially if a partner doesn't realize when he or she is undermining another's efforts to eat healthier. Once you've given your family a chance to respond, ask for support and be very specific what 'support' means to you. Speak up if your loved ones say they will support you, but then encourage you to eat cake.

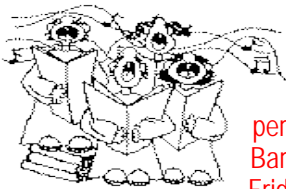
Other pointers that may help include setting a good example rather than lecturing. Bring home more good-for-you grub. If you do most of the meal preparation, adopt a 'health with stealth' approach to meal planning. If your mate is the master chef, remember that positive

reinforcements and compliments work better than nagging.

If the united front does not work, consider preparing separate meals. Set up physical boundaries between your food and others to avoid temptation. To build up resistance during mealtimes, promise yourself a healthy treat after dinner. Taking a bite or two of your partner's food may also help, but watch out for that slippery slope. Ask yourself, "Is this a can't-live-without-it food?" If not, skip it. Above all, don't skimp on flavor. Rather than eat diet foods, focus on eating lower-calorie healthy versions of dishes you love. Get as much support as possible from friends, the gym, work colleagues, and books.

Whole Living/Body & Soul Oct.2008: Food Wars by Elizabeth Barker submitted by Barb Emigh, RN

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Unsung Heroes

I am writing this on a Friday and the person who is keeping me entertained is Barb Pertz. She is here because every Friday Barb comes and folds the bulletins, and whatever else needs doing. It saves a huge amount of work for Stephanie, and makes the office a fun place to be. Please thank her for this kindness she does for all of us!!!

--Gayle

Been There. Done That.

One of the most common responses to any new idea is this: "We tried that before and it didn't work." In other words -- *been there, done that.*

If you truly believe in your idea, you won't allow this sort of response to kill the concept. Here are a few ways to leap this roadblock:

1. Who was "we"?

Nothing personal, but who were the people in charge of the previous effort? Did they have access to the proper personnel, resources, and technology to execute the task? Did they have

FLOWER GUILD OUTING

On a beautiful Saturday in August, members of the Flower Guild traveled to Bellville to visit the Wade and Gatton nurseries and walk their beautiful Hosta gardens.

This is the largest Hosta supplier in the country. As an added bonus, the Amish had set up shop in the village square, so the day was very "fruitful"!

Check the bulletin board for additional snapshots of

the authority and permissions to get this new idea enacted?

2. How hard did they try?

Was the full-backing of the church behind the effort, was it only a half-hearted attempt? How long were they able to implement the idea? Could success have only been days away when the initiative was abandoned?

3. Did they try THIS "that" or some other "that"?

Is your idea REALLY identical to the failed attempt, or does it possess some aspects that are unique to the failed approach? Can you use the area of the original failure to give this new attempt a headstart?

4. How long ago was "before"?

Technology changes daily, there are new tools that may not have been around in the previous attempt. The church has probably hired a new person or two since the first attempt as well. Combining the newly hired brains with the newly advanced technology may be just what's needed to make it a success this time around.

5. What didn't work?

Frequently only part of an experiment fails, not the entire experiment as a whole. What little successes from the original attempt could be applied to this new effort in order to increase its chances of success? Sometimes the failures themselves can become great success of their own -- Silly Putty and Post it Notes are both examples of "failed" experiments that have become classic successes.

At one point the church believed in the idea enough to give it a shot. See if you can reignite that flame and use it to light a new path toward success.

THE LORD IS WITH US and THE LORD WILL BLESS US

Remember St. Thomas in Your Will & Estate Planning!

our excursion.
Betsy Linville



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YOUNG ADULTS

I wanted to talk a little about the Young Adults and recap what has been going on and what will go on over the next couple months. I want to thank everyone who has come out and shared in building community at St. Thomas. I know Carmen and I have enjoyed spending time with everyone, talking, getting know you and of course eating. In the early Spring, we started to meet once a month and have a meal, get to know each other, have a spiritual program. We started by watching a series of videos titled NOOMA by Rob Bell. They are brief 10-15 minute films that focus on a variety of topics that are important today and done in a way that might speak to us differently than in the past. We watched Rain, Flame and Noise. In July, we had a picnic over in Olmsted Falls at the park and by the time you read this in September, we will have cooked a meal for campus ministry, In October, I believe, we are looking to have a tailgate party and picnic. Football and Food. Now that's fall in Northeast Ohio! And in the months to come we look forward to getting to know each other better, building community and growing in Christ. We look forward to seeing everyone soon and we're interested in any ideas that people have for future gatherings as we look toward each other and to Christ.

Blessings

Eric and Carmen Kluth

From the Editor

Thanks to everyone who contributed articles to this month's edition! Thanks also to Stephanie Busser for all she does to actually get *The Wayfarer* out to all of you!

I don't know about you, but Fall is my favorite season of the year. :-)) Let's hope we have some spectacular color on the trees this year!

-- Laura D'Amato,
Editor



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“Going for the Green”

This month, instead of offering tips, here are just a few statistics to help you think about your impact on the environment!

- **680 = Average number of pounds of paper used annually by every American
- ** 7 = Number of trees required by every American to meet their yearly demand for paper and wood products
- ** 380 = Gallons of petroleum saved by recycling one ton of paper.
- **2,700 = Gallons of water wasted by a leaky faucet dripping once per second.
- **33 = percent of US household waste currently being recycled

By the way, our Abitibi Paper Retriever Recycling Bin (the yellow & green one) holds between one and two tons of paper!

Sources include Recycling Revolution (www.recycling-revolution.com), the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and **Water: Use Less—Save More** by Jon Clift and Amanda Cuthbert, Chelsea Green Publishing, September 2007.

--Laura D'Amato

OUR ANGLICAN HERITAGE

Poems, Prayers and Promises

The title above comes from a delightful song by the late John Denver, and I think it describes the almost unbelievable gifts seventeenth century England gave to the world.

If we just look at the century in political and religious terms, we miss some of the most important cultural gifts ever given to any civilization. So, this month is devoted to a brief listing of many of them. It is a curiosity (to say the least) that in a time of great societal upheaval – even great danger to those who dared to speak their mind – such magnificent literary, political and scientific work could occur. But occur it did, perhaps because of --rather than in spite of -- the events swirling about the realm.

Literature

One can safely say that the seventeenth century began with William Shakespeare, whose work straddled both the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, to be sure, but that was just the start. Following him were the likes of poet John Donne, Dean of St. Paul's, London (*Devotions* – “for whom the bell tolls”), Ben Jonson, George Herbert, John Milton (*Paradise Lost*), Thomas Hobbes (*Leviathan*), John Dryden. Samuel Pepys (*Diary; The Great Fire of London*), John Bunyan (*The Pilgrim's Progress*), Daniel Defoe (*Robinson Crusoe*), and many others.

Science

England's greatest gift to the world of science is almost unarguably Isaac Newton, whose *Laws of Physics* helped set the very foundation for modern scientific inquiry. In a time of great fear and superstition, that such a brilliant mind could arise and cut through the fog of ignorance is quite remarkable. Remember this: at virtually the same time Newton was developing his theory of physical laws – laws we accept as scientific fact today -- witches were being tried and executed both in England, on the European continent, and here in Salem, Massachusetts as well!

Politics and Philosophy

England was late to *The Enlightenment*, but once it took up the cause it wasted no time. Acknowledged

as its greatest philosopher and political thinker, John Locke (1632-1702), promulgated ideas which were incorporated into the American *Declaration of Independence* a full century later. However, the ferment which resulted from the English Civil War, and the successes and failures encountered there, played a major role in advancing the cause of political freedom around the world.

In short, a period which caused so much unrest, turmoil and pain also raised up some of the most creative and enduring artists, scientists and philosophers the world has ever seen. And their influence was keenly felt within the religious framework of the age, a subject to which we shall return next time.

-- Dave Warburton



YOUR 2008 ST. THOMAS VESTRY

Dave Warburton - Senior Warden

Alice Amos - Junior Warden

Elaine Willis - Clerk

Tom Halliday - Treasurer

Tim Cooper

Becky Shank

Rich Stowell

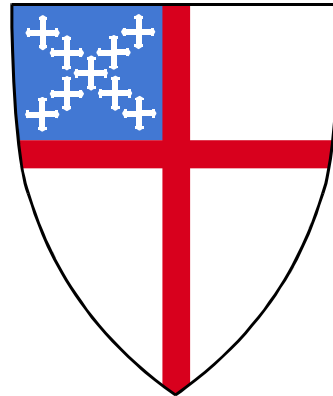
Lynn Vincent

Peggy Zambounis

Rev. Gayle Catinella - Rector



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



OCTOBER 1ST 12:15 PM
STAR CONCERT AND LUNCHEON

OCTOBER 4TH
9:30 AM ECW TRIP TO LAKEVIEW CEMETERY
FOLLOWED BY LUNCH AT MAMA SANTA'S

OCTOBER 5TH
9:00 AM PARISH BREAKFAST
4:00 PM PET BLESSING

OCTOBER 10TH 7:00
LOS AMIGOS EPISCOPALES MEETING

OCTOBER 11TH 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM
FALL FAMILY FUN FEST!

OCTOBER 13TH 12:45 PM
TORCH

OCTOBER 14TH - OCTOBER 16
PROVINCE 5 CHAPLAINS' MEETING

OCTOBER 17TH 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM
LOS AMIGOS EPISCOPALES DANCE

OCTOBER 18TH
9:30 AM DOK

9:30 AM BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

OCTOBER 24TH - 25TH
DIOCESAN YOUTH EVENT

OCTOBER 28TH 7:00 PM
HEALING SERVICE

OCTOBER 29 5:30 PM
BEREA COMMUNITY MEAL

