



# The Angelus

Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral • Kansas City, Missouri

Vol.77, No.6 • June 2008

## FROM THE DEAN

In 1986 Robert Fulghum's *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* quickly became a best-seller. His uncommon thoughts on common things led him to create a list of life's most important things, including:

- Share everything.
- Play fair.
- Don't hit people.
- Put things back where you found them.
- Clean up your own mess.
- Don't take things that aren't yours.
- Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.
- Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.
- Live a balanced life – learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work every day some.
- Take a nap every afternoon.
- When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands, and stick together.
- Be aware of wonder.

It is one man's confession of what he believes is most important, found not only in the specifics of each item, but in the picture created by the whole confession. Reading the lines and reading between them. This is Robert Fulghum's Creed.

Each Sunday we gather to profess our creedal faith which is based on mystery. Certainly the Doctrine of the Holy Trinity is Mystery: Three in One and One in Three. But in the midst of that profound mystery is the greatest mystery of all: Love.

Saint Augustine referred to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as Lover, Beloved, and the never ending Act of Loving, based on St. John's Letters which proclaim that God is Love.

Ecumenical Councils of the undivided Church created the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed. These formularies confess our faith and convey meaning that has been affirmed and proclaimed for centuries. Some of our spiritual ancestors died for the right to confess these creeds, and today in parts of the world our sisters and brothers are persecuted for proclaiming this Faith. We must not dispense with these creeds.

But I would quickly add, just like Mr. Fulghum's creed of things learned in kindergarten – you and I and the whole Church must read between the lines of our creeds and claim the whole picture they create.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is the language the Church uses for proclaiming the eternal, divine, and saving relationship that is the mystery of God's love, love which existed before creation, whose imprint is stamped on every aspect of creation.

Our scriptural story proclaims this creed:

- *God so loved the world that he sent his only Son.*
- *Love one another as I have loved you.*
- *Faith, hope and love abide ... and the greatest of these is love.*

The most basic Christian creed is God is love. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is love. Those who confess and profess God must also love. Nothing, Jesus said, in all that the law and prophets say is more important, than to love God and neighbor. Love is creedal.

Without action any creed is empty and worthless. Among our nation's civil creeds are the Pledge of Allegiance and the Constitution. Pledging allegiance means little if we do not ensure liberty and justice for all. The Bill of Rights is empty without leaders absolutely preserving those rights.

If you and I confess faith in God the Holy Trinity, proclaiming the Scriptural witness that God is love, we cannot use the same scriptures to exclude anyone from God's love and grace. To turn away from the needs of others is not an option. Being silent in the face of oppression is to betray our confession of faith in Jesus Christ.

The Love of God is not theoretical, it is never abstract. God's love became flesh in Christ. Our love of God must also take on flesh. We are to create life, repel evil and heal sin's effects, and love with the force of Pentecost's winds and with the intensity of its flames.

Like Mr. Fulghum, we all have personal creeds. Our calendars and our check books are but two ways we tell the world and God what is important. Our creeds are living statements, and must continually grow and reflect our love of God and devotion to Christ in concrete acts of generosity, commitment and servanthood.

Let God's Love be the Creed we profess by every word we speak, every decision we make, every act we carry out. God is love, so you and I must show love to all people. Every kindergarten knows that.

*—by the Very Rev. Terry White,  
from the dean's homily for Trinity Sunday*

### Jerusalem Marketplace Vacation Bible School

June 16-19 • 7-8:30 p.m.

Register online  
[www.ghtc-kc.org/childrensfomation](http://www.ghtc-kc.org/childrensfomation)  
or contact DeAnn McTavish.



# Discernment

Early in June we will gather as a community to witness the ordination of two individuals to the order of deacons in the Episcopal Church, including our own Whitney Rice. Parishioner Greg Morgan has been working with a group representing our own congregation in the discernment of a vocation to the diaconate, and will soon begin to work with a similar group representing the diocese. So how might the process that these faithful from our midst are going through affect the rest of us? Is discernment wider in scope than the determination of vocation, and if so, in what way?

Simply and directly stated, discernment is “the process of assessing and evaluating, particularly in relation to trying to determine God’s will in a particular situation or for one’s life direction.”<sup>1</sup> So discernment, by this definition, is something that we are all to engage in. More directly, it is the unending process of looking for God in our lives.

We often use sensory language for discernment: the looking for and listening to God. The value of such imagery is twofold — it is both active and passive. “Seeing” (passive) relates to observations about our lives that can indicate, when we are “looking” (active), that God is indeed present. Likewise, hearing and listening are the passive and active counterparts for the ear metaphor.

The active part of discernment is related to the Christian expectation that God is indeed present and calling us, and is thereby an acting out of our hope. The passive sense of discernment is related to our understanding that God

first acts upon us, before we do, think, or say anything. We then respond to God.

Our definition of discernment, however, suggests that it is the passive sense of the word that demands our attention. Our questions for God set our agenda before God, which tends to limit the communication from the outset. The fullness of God’s communication to us requires the setting aside of our agendas and simply being aware of God’s presence. The result of such openness can be that the parameters are widened for what we can receive from God.

A difficulty is introduced, however, when we consider the process of learning and communicating that are part of the human being. Thomas Aquinas once wrote that, “whatever one perceives is perceived in terms of one’s presuppositions.”<sup>2</sup>

In other words, we exert some amount of control over a given message, however perceived, often without our even knowing it. We can even go so far as to read into a message whatever meaning is required to support our prior convictions. So it turns out that discernment can be dangerous business. The Crusades, for example, were a manifestation of the collectively determined will of God during the Middle Ages. Most of us today would suggest that the motivation was more self-serving, but did we understand that at the time?

Discernment for ordination is a kind of model, a focal point through which we can see the process of discernment at work, a process that is central to all of us as Christians trying to live faithfully in the twenty-first century. In

the Presentation and Examination portions of the service (BCP) we see something of the work that both candidates and their communities have and will continue to engage in.

In the Consecration we witness God’s action, resembling closely what we ask God to do in the life of all Christians. Our ordaining of an individual to these vocations is thereby recognized as realizing on earth what we understand God to desire already.

An individual’s ordination, however, does not complete the discernment process. God does not call without purpose. And that purpose will not end, and so the call to follow is likewise unending. Discernment is the way of living that we are all called to. It is Moses, discerning God’s call for him to go back to Egypt, knowing that he was inadequate and unable to accomplish what was asked, but going anyway, simply because he was called.

It is the disciples as they follow Jesus, listening, not fully comprehending but learning to trust. And it is us as well, struggling to live faithfully in an ever-changing world, but knowing that God is present and calling us. May we live such discernment in our own lives and in our life together, striving for a posture of openness and receptivity to God’s voice.

—by the Rev. Joe Behen

<sup>1</sup> McKim, Donald K. *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms* (Louisville, Westminster John Knox Press, 1996)

<sup>2</sup> from Maline, Bruce J. and Pilch, John J. *Social Science Commentary of the Letters of Paul* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2006)

## Children’s Formation summer schedule

The formation year for children culminated with a visual presentation of creation during the Youth Sunday service. The summer curriculum continues work on the Cathedral project, begun last summer, and incorporates meditative lessons in our new rain garden.

Children’s formation begins at 9:15 a.m. in Haden Hall auditorium. Children age 3-11 meet together during the summer schedule and worship in the Disciples Chapel (orange door room) at 10:15. Children join their families in the nave at The Peace.

—by DeAnn McTavish

## Treasurer’s Report

Apr YTD	Budgeted YTD	Actual YTD
Income	\$ 624,623	\$ 628,861
Expenses	\$ 590,042	\$ 608,495
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$ 34,581</b>	<b>\$ 20,366</b>

April saw the Vestry of the Cathedral revise the 2008 budget to balance income and expenses. While April’s figures are not included in this report due to the adjustments, the budget revisions are reflected in the Year-to-Date (YTD) statement which gives an accurate picture of the Cathedral’s financial position. As always, contact me with any questions.

—by Doyle White

## The Angelus

*A laypersons’ newspaper published in the interest of Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral.*

*The Angelus Small Group Contributors:*

Emily Akins  
Mary Byrne  
John Hornbeck  
Chris Morrison, *Small Group Facilitator*

Tom Atkin  
Jan Frizzle  
Geoff Logan

Julie Toma, *Editor*

*The Angelus Small Group* meets the first Tuesday of each month and is open to anyone interested in contributing (writing stories, taking photographs) regularly to *The Angelus*. No experience necessary.

Submissions from parishioners and small groups are welcome and encouraged. All entries are requested by the 15th day of the month prior to publication by e-mail: [communications@ghtc-kc.org](mailto:communications@ghtc-kc.org) or fax: 816.474.5856.

For more articles and pictures, go to [ghtc-kc.org/angelus](http://ghtc-kc.org/angelus)

# green cathedral

*Ideas for the stewardship of God's creation*

## Five Green Things

Bridging the Gap ([www.bridgingthegap.org](http://www.bridgingthegap.org)) has a nice list of five things one person can do to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide they add to the atmosphere, either directly or indirectly. The overall goal is to use less energy.

**1. Give up bottled water.** Drink tap water instead. Why is it better to get away from bottled water? It's not the water, it's the bottles. (Well, it's also the water, but that's another article.) Americans consume 1 billion bottles of water every week, which takes 1,500,000 barrels of oil to make. Plus, most of those bottles end up in the trash, and recycling that type of plastic uses toxic heavy materials. You can buy a washable, reusable bottle that will quickly pay for itself. Average household reduction of CO2 emissions: 216 pounds a year.

**2. Wash your laundry in cold water instead of warm or hot.** Your clothes will get just as clean, especially if you have a relatively new washing machine and use a good detergent. Also, be sure to wash only when you have a full load, since running two loads uses about twice as much energy as running one load. Also, newer front-loading washing machines can spin more water out of your clothes than a top loader, which reduces the amount of time you have to run the dryer. They also use dramatically less water. Average CO2 reduction: 327 pounds a year.

**3. Switch to compact fluorescent light bulbs.** Did you know that most of the energy that goes into a regular light bulb is wasted as heat? CFLs give you more light and almost no heat for less electricity. You may have to shop around to find CFLs that put out the same color of light as incandescent bulbs. Try a home improvement store over a discount retailer. Average household CO2 reduction: 566 pounds a year.

**4. Change your thermostat.** Lower the setting in the winter and raise it in the summer. You won't notice a change of a couple of degrees. Better yet, get a programmable thermostat. You can program it to keep your house comfortable when you are home, but let off on the demand for heating or cooling during the day when no one is home. Some power companies will give you a free one if you sign up for a monitoring program. Average CO2 reduction: 553 pounds a year.

**5. Use less gasoline.** You may be doing this anyway since gas prices keep going up. A car emits nearly one pound of CO2 for every gallon it consumes, for an average of more than 11,000 pounds a year coming out of your tailpipe. Don't forget to add the emissions produced from producing the gasoline in the first place. You've heard the tips before: drive less, don't let your car idle, slow down. Average CO2 reduction: 2500 pounds a year.

To learn more, go to Bridging the Gap (<http://www.bridgingthegap.org/egap.php?id=214>). You can also sign up to get more information about these tips.



## News from Haiti

We know the news is bad if the newspaper prints news about Haiti. Earlier this spring Haiti, as well as other poverty-stricken countries around the world, experienced riots due to sharp increases in food and fuel costs. Imagine yourself with an annual income of \$300 and suddenly food prices for staples doubled or tripled in price. This is what many Haitian people faced.

During this time there were road blocks — in Haiti that means piling tires in the road and setting them on fire — they burn for a very long time. Eventually the Haitian government under President Preval announced that prices on essentials would be lowered, and the World Bank announced \$10 million in food aid to Haiti.

Political unrest of this kind means everything shuts down — schools, banks, markets, gas stations and shops. The schools and businesses have now re-opened and a relative calm has returned to the country.

During all this time, the Haitian staff at Maison de Naissance braved the roadblocks to get to Maison de Naissance. MN continued to provide essential services of prenatal care, labor and delivery and infant vaccinations. It took courage for both the staff and the Mothers to continue making the trip to MN.

Please continue to keep both the Staff and the women served by Maison de Naissance in your prayers. They depend on both our financial assistance and prayers.

**For your calendars:** The third "Evening in Provence" event will take place at Aixois French Bistro on Sunday evening, September 28 at 6 p.m. Megan and Emmanuel Langlade, owners of Aixois, will again be our hosts for this wonderful event of good food, good wine and great company.

*—by Marian Philip*



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • Keith and Jean Oliver                      | • John Seidlitz, <i>Pete Seidlitz's brother</i>   |
| • Tony Rogers                                | • Elton Lawson, <i>Aaron Morgan's grandfather</i> |
| • Delores Streiler, <i>Julie Toma's aunt</i> |   |



# Blessing of the Children's Rain Garden and ice cream social: June 29

The Children's Rain Garden was installed, on the south side of the Cathedral near the Diocesan Center, at the end of May. We are delighted to have this lovely and eco-friendly meditative space and outdoor classroom on campus. We encourage families and individuals to help us weed and care for the garden. To sponsor a native plant for the rain garden contact DeAnn McTavish.

The blessing of the Children's Rain Garden will follow the 10:15 service June 29. An ice cream social will follow in the Diocesan Close.



photos by Brian Whitfill and Julie Toma



## Angels Needed

Two specific Cathedral ministries which celebrate the beauty of God's creation could benefit from your monetary gifts.

The **Garden Guild** has been in top form, and the grounds have looked spectacular this spring. A great deal of work has been put into the courtyard between the cathedral and diocesan office. This work includes new plantings and eight new urns that are filled with ferns. These new urns are priced at \$105 each. To provide for one or more urns simply memo a check to GHTC for the "Garden Guild."

The **Flower Fund** ensures that arrangements adorn the cathedral altars each Sunday and throughout the week. Weekly gifts help provide the arrangements, and over-and-above gifts supplement as needed. A contribution of an over-and-above gift of any amount is greatly appreciated. Your check to the Cathedral should be memoed "Flower Fund."

## Flower gifts for May

### May 4

- in memory of my husband Tully — *Ruth Moss*
- in thanksgiving of the birthday of Michael Thomas — *Cathy Thomas*
- in celebration of the birthday of Barbara Buckner — *a friend*

### May 11

- in thanksgiving for my children: Mary Ellen Heger and John Francis Toner — *Evelyn Toner*
- in memory of Elizabeth S. Sifers & Marie Hall Pence — *Elizabeth Pence*

### May 18

- in memory of my husband Darrel L. Stotts — *Loretta Stotts*

- in thanksgiving for John Schaefer and the Cathedral Bell Ringers — *Sara Copeland*
- in thanksgiving for the marriage of Vivian Volante and Aaron Valencia

### May 25

- in loving memory of my husband Albert Franklin Wallace — *Sharyl Wallace*
- in loving memory of my husband Tom Wood — *Sally Wood*
- in loving memory of David Ludwig — *Sam and Dorothy Gersham, Paul, Nan and Andrea Schooling*
- in celebration of the birthday of our daughter Betsy Leonard and the anniversary of Kathryn and Brad McLeroy — *Ron and Carolyn McLeroy*

## Youth Sunday



On Youth Sunday, our children and youth participated in the 10:15 a.m. service. They acted out the first reading (the creation story), served as lectors and intercessors and sang anthems.

photos by DeAnn McTavish and Chris Morrison



## DEAN'S CUP CLASSIC

**Saturday, July 26, 2008**

presented by Grace and Holy  
Trinity Cathedral  
at Paradise Pointe, Smithville Lake

*Benefiting Culinary Cornerstones,  
a ministry of Episcopal Community  
Services*

\$25 Reserves your spot. *Tournament  
fees to be paid in full by July 3.*

Register your own team, or just  
yourself and we will add you to  
a team.

Register online at  
[www.ghtc-kc.org/golf](http://www.ghtc-kc.org/golf) or contact  
Charmaine Fowler (816.509.3365).



*The Episcopal Diocese of West Missouri*

## Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral

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The Right Rev. Barry R. Howe  
*Bishop of West Missouri*

The Very Rev. Terry White  
*Dean*

The Rev. Canon Susan Sommer  
*Canon Pastor and Subdean*

The Rev. Carol Sanford  
*Priest Associate*

The Rev. Joseph Behen  
*Clergy Assistant*

The Rev. Bryan England  
*Deacon*

The Rev. Bruce Hall  
*Deacon*

The Rev. Dr. Michael Johnston  
*Scholar-in-Residence*

Mr. John L. Schaefer  
*Canon Musician*

## June 2008

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

## Weekly Activities

### Sunday

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
9:15 a.m. Christian Formation  
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
5:00 p.m. Order for Evening/Holy Eucharist

### Monday

12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist

### Tuesday

9:15 a.m. EfM  
12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist  
1:30 p.m. Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study  
7:00 p.m. Theology Discussion Group

### Wednesday

12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist

### Thursday

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study  
12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist

### Friday

12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist

## Activities for the Month of June

### SUNDAY • 01

11:45 a.m. Parish Picnic  
3:15 p.m. Centering Prayer Group

### SATURDAY • 07

10:30 a.m. Ordinations

### SUNDAY • 08 • Blood Pressure Sunday

### TUESDAY • 10

6:15 p.m. Cancer Support Group

### THURSDAY • 12

8:30 a.m. RAMP Program

### SATURDAY • 14

1:00 p.m. Keith Oliver Visitation  
3:00 p.m. Keith Oliver Memorial Service

### SUNDAY • 15 • FATHER'S DAY

5:00 p.m. Integrity

### MONDAY • 16

7:00 p.m. Jerusalem Marketplace VBS

### TUESDAY • 17

7:00 p.m. Jerusalem Marketplace VBS

### WEDNESDAY • 18

7:00 p.m. Jerusalem Marketplace VBS

### THURSDAY • 19

7:00 p.m. Jerusalem Marketplace VBS

### SATURDAY • 21

10:30 a.m. Charitable Needlework

### SUNDAY • 22

3:15 p.m. Centering Prayer Group

### WEDNESDAY • 25

6:30 p.m. Reel People

### THURSDAY • 26

5:00 p.m. Vestry

*Please verify times and dates of the events listed with the  
appropriate person(s) or by contacting the Cathedral Office.*

OUR PRIMARY MISSION as the Episcopal Cathedral church  
in the heart of the City is to be a servant church. We seek and serve  
Christ in all people, loving our neighbors as ourselves and working  
for justice, peace and respect for every human being.