



Delaware Communion is an edition of *Episcopal Life* and has been in continuous publication since 1976.

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ON THE WEB
www.DioceesofDelaware.net

Nets for Life: Delawarean takes the cause "on the road"



On the morning of October 16, Abby Eibin, who attends St. George's Chapel, began an 800-mile bicycle ride from Rehoboth Beach to Sumter, South Carolina. Abby is staying with friends and at Episcopal churches along the way, spreading the word about Episcopal Relief and Development's *Nets for Life* campaign (www.er-d.org). The campaign provides mosquito nets to protect children in sub-Saharan Africa, 3000 of whom die each day as a result of mosquito-borne malaria. Abby's message: \$12.00 (the price of a net) can save a life, and she is asking for donations along the way.

Track Abby's progress at <http://Abby.AvianGroup.org>, and please keep her in your prayers. *Nets for Life* donations may be given to your parish or to the bishop's office.

DELAWARE Communion

Episcopal Life Edition

Episcopal Diocese of Delaware, November 2008, Vol. 19, No. 11

PARISH LIFE DAY
GO GREEN
Caring for Creation

See details on Page C.

Delaware Episcopalians Join in National Service of Repentance for Slavery



Bishop Wright (right) joins the presiding bishop (center) and Bishop Talton from the Diocese of Los Angeles (left) in the Eucharist at the Service of Repentance. (photo: Adora Mack)

More than thirty Delaware clergy and laity, including Bishop Wright, joined Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori, 14 bishops, and hundreds of others in Philadelphia on October 3 and 4. They gathered to explore the Episcopal Church's involvement in the institution of transatlantic slavery and to offer a public apology.

While the news stories in *Episcopal Life* and *Episcopal Life Online* tell the details of the solemn observance, three women who attended from the Church of Sts. Andrew and Matthew, Wilmington, and Ed Godden from Immanuel on the Green, New Castle, have graciously offered to share how the two days affected them personally. The following are their reflections.

As one can see, both in their words and in the *Episcopal Life* articles, our work of repentance

has just begun. To find out how to participate, contact the Rev. Al Holland, rector, Church of the Ascension, Claymont, and co-chair of the Diocesan Committee on Slavery, at 798-6683 or Office@AscensionDE.org.

Carolyn Haon:

How does one describe anything when your heart is torn apart, you are feeling anger and guilt deep down in your gut, and tears don't stop?

I attended the Two-Day Solemn Observance in Philadelphia not anticipating the soul searching experience I had. You could hear a pin drop when stories were told about slavery. There were sighs and moans, sobbing, hugging and arms flailing in the air. I have never in my life had such a moment when I wasn't sure where I was and wondered, "Do I belong here?"

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DIOCESE OF DELAWARE: BISHOP'S MISSION FUND

Bishop's Mission Fund Recipients Offer Visible Signs of Christ's Life-Changing Power

Bishop Wright announced at our 223rd annual convention that he was shifting the focus of his mission fund from the Good Shepherd church plant to three outreach ministries: First Steps/Primeros Pasos Early Childhood Learning Center (Georgetown), the Latino congregation at Trinity Parish (Wilmington), and the Episcopal prison chaplain (Sussex County).

In his appeal for support of this fund, the bishop said, "As bishop I have many stories to tell about the power of generosity. Faith in Jesus Christ changes lives. These three worthwhile ministries are visible signs of that life-changing power."

To date, more than 200 Delaware Episcopalians have donated to the Bishop's Mission Fund. The following three articles tell a little more about these ministries and the important work that we are supporting together.

First Steps Primeros Pasos Early Learning Center Celebrates Banner Year

by Jessica Clark,
St. Paul's, Georgetown

Only one year ago, Mrs. Trudy Cole welcomed the first 14 students entering the First Steps Primeros Pasos Early Learning Center modular classroom. By the end of the school year, three students met all requirements for graduating to kindergarten at public schools and the remainder graduated to the next learning level.

Through grants and donations from government, local churches, civic organizations, and businesses; the Bishop's Mission Fund, the United Thank Offering, the Episcopal Church Women; and the combined efforts of many Sussex County volunteers and the center's staff and parents, the educational center serving three- and four-year-olds has experienced tremendous successes.

First Steps Primeros Pasos is more than a day care center. The culturally-sensitive early learning program includes

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La Parroquia de la Trinidad: Trinity's Latino Ministry

by Kathleen Seipel,
Trinity Parish, Wilmington

Fifteen years ago, Trinity Parish offered its first Spanish language Eucharist, responding to the needs of parishioners from Calvary Episcopal Church in Wilmington's Hilltop neighborhood, which had closed. What has grown from those early days is a vibrant Latino Ministry at Trinity Parish, with a diverse and growing community that has renewed the life of the church.

While members of Trinity's Latino congregation come from all over Latin America, the majority are from Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean. Trinity's families reflect the diversity of the community at large, and they include individuals born in Delaware and born abroad.

Latino Ministry at Trinity includes ministry to the physical, spiritual, and pastoral needs of the people. The Rev. Juan George, associate rector at Trinity Parish, leads the pastoral ministry. He prepares members for Reception, Presentation,

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Serving Those Deemed "Unredeemable"

by The Rev. David J. Archibald,
chaplain, Sussex Correctional Institution, and rector of St. Mark's, Millsboro, and St. Martin's-in-the-Field, Selbyville

At Bishop Wright's request, I started going into Sussex Correctional Institute (SCI) in Georgetown on a weekly basis shortly after beginning my ministry here in the Diocese of Delaware in April of 2002. This was the "street ministry" I had craved since before going to seminary in Tennessee in 1986.

During my sixteen years in the Diocese of Tennessee, including seminary, I had occasionally gone to the local jails to be with parishioners and others. But I had no idea what was in store for me in the spring of '02 as I entered SCI as part of a group of folks from The Way Home—a very worthy exit ministry begun under the sturdy umbrella of our diocese in 1998.

My most poignant personal observation was that approximately 80% of the inmates incarcerated at SCI had no chance but to end up there—or

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Sustaining Grace

by Wayne Wright,
Bishop of the Diocese of Delaware

All the economic news brings to mind memories from twenty years ago. My wife, Holly, and I had just left Virginia. We were moving to New Orleans. I had accepted the call to a new parish. Within months of our arrival the economic bottom fell out. Louisiana had been riding high for the past ten years. Oil prices had risen dramatically in the 1970s bringing unprecedented prosperity to communities along the Gulf Coast. Friends there called it the Louisiana hayride. Life had been very good. Now it was all ending unexpectedly and almost as quickly as it began.

Growing up in relative prosperity and security, this was something new for Holly and me. Our church was on one of the main city streets. Almost every day for weeks the same thing would happen. A car filled with kids, stuffed with belongings, and a U-Haul trailer hitched to the back would pull up at the curb. "I worked in the oil fields," the driver would say. "I've lost my job and my house. We're leaving for good. Can you help us with money for a tank of gas?" I remembered my parents and grandparents described such scenes from the 1930s. This was nothing I had ever seen.

Eventually problems spread from individuals to businesses and banks. Stores began to close. Banks were merged. Some even failed. There was a large, old bank in the heart of downtown. With large marble columns across the front, it resembled an ancient Roman temple. "In God We Trust" was inscribed above the bank's front doors. The entrance was barred. Placards were taped over the windows. "Closed: Seized by the FDIC," they read. The pillars of our community were shaking.

The summer passed and it was fall. Our parish began its stewardship program and every member was canvassed. My job, as the new priest, was to prepare and deliver a sermon about giving. I still remember agonizing over that sermon. Twenty years later I don't remember exactly what I said, but I do remember how concerned I was. There were no wealthy people in our congregation. Many were retired. Most were just making ends meet. What would we do? How could we support our parish ministry in such an environment?

After worship was over, an older member of the church came up to speak with me. She was a widow. I knew that her monthly budget was very limited. "Father," she said, "I liked what you had to say in your sermon, but please, don't make excuses. We all know that the economy is bad. But, don't worry. We know why it's important to give. We know what it means to be faithful."

Her faith strengthened mine and opened my eyes. And, over the next

years remarkable things were accomplished. Sometimes we had enough money to do the things we wanted to do. Other times we did things without money. We joined with other churches to open a soup kitchen. We expanded our own child care program. We patched the church roof when we couldn't afford to replace it. Volunteers stepped in when needed. It was as if we were living out the story of the loaves and the fishes. The old expression "manna in the wilderness" made new sense.



Living through such challenging times gave me a renewed appreciation for the life and ministry of St. Paul. Even a quick reading of Paul's New Testament letters reveals the remarkable breadth of his life experience. Born into a life of privilege, he gave all this up to follow Jesus. On his missionary journeys he was ship wrecked, beaten by an angry mob, and thrown into prison more than once.

Toward the end of his life he looked back on his day. In the Epistle to the Philippians, he shared the secret of a faith that had supported him in good times and bad. This is what he wrote: "I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty, and of being in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

While none of us knows what the future may hold or even where the stock market may be headed, this is my experience. We can be assured that the same grace which sustained and strengthened Paul is available to us. Our lives today reflect the grace and freedom that Jesus gives to us. Just as we have so generously received, now we also have the opportunity and the responsibility to give.

Wayne

Churches in Transition

Please pray for:

- St. Anne's, Middletown, www.St-Annes-Church.com, is finalizing its interviews.
- St. Albans, Wilmington, www.StAlbansDE.org, is preparing its Parish Profile.
- Saints Andrew and Matthew, www.SsAM.org, has completed its Parish Profile.

Diocese Seeks Leaders

by Rufus Miller,
Bishop's Staff

The Diocesan Nominating Committee has begun its work to identify individuals for leadership roles in preparation for our 224th Convention in March. We are fortunate and grateful to have so many people who are eager to serve the church here in Delaware. Please help us once again to find Episcopalians who will give graciously of their time and talents. Please send your suggestions to Rufus Miller, Secretary of Convention, at 656-5441 or Rufus-Miller@DioceseofDelaware.net.

The following candidates are needed:

The Standing Committee handles matters of the clergy and ecclesiastical authority.

Needed: One clergy member for a four-year term; and one lay member for a four-year term.

The Trustees of the Diocese provide financial, custodial, trust, and investment services for the diocese. Dr. Janet Todd is eligible for re-election.

Needed: One clergy or lay member for a six-year term.

The Constitution and Canons Committee deals with all matters relating to the constitution and canons of the diocese.

Needed: One lay member for a five-year term. Peggy Ann Delaplane is eligible for re-election.

The Trial Court deals with the adjudication of ecclesiastical matters.

Needed: One lay member for a five-year term. Diane Clarke Streett is eligible for re-election.

The Diocesan Council is responsible for program and budget for the work and mission of the diocese.

Needed: Two clergy members; two lay at-large members; one lay member from Region III (New Castle County north of the C&D Canal, excluding Wilmington parishes); and one lay member from Region IV (Wilmington parishes) – each for a term of three years.

224th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Delaware

Christ Church
Christiana Hundred
March 27-28, 2009

For details, contact Pat Hall

656-5441

PatHall@DioceseofDelaware.net

THE BISHOP'S CALENDAR: NOVEMBER

2 Sunday: Morning Visitation, Immanuel Highlands Church, Wilmington

5 Wednesday: Bishop's Day in Georgetown

9 Sunday: Morning Visitation, St. Anne's Church, Middletown

11 Tuesday: Continuing Education Day with Bishop Gene Robinson, Christ Church, Dover

16 Sunday: Morning Visitation, St. Paul's Church, Georgetown

17 Monday: Medical Trust Strategy & Policy Committee Meeting, New York

18 Tuesday – 20 Thursday: Church Pension Fund Board Meetings, New York

22 Saturday: Parish Life Day

23 Sunday: Morning Visitation, St. Nicholas' Church, Newark

24 Monday: Bishop's Office Closed after Parish Life Day

27 Thursday – 28 Friday: Thanksgiving Holiday, Bishop's Office Closed

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The Episcopal Diocese of Delaware

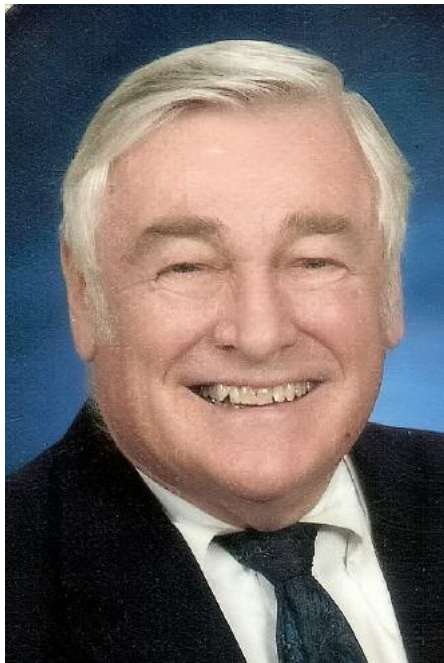
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Ralph W. Peters, Jr., Appointed to Governor's Council on Housing

Ralph Peters, former member of St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Laurel, and spouse of the Rev. Rita B. Nelson, Coordinator of the Diaconate Program, has been appointed to the Delaware Governor's Council on Housing (officially, The Delaware State Housing Authority Council on Housing). The Council's principle duties are to advise the Governor, Housing Director, and General Assembly on affordable housing and approve the allocation of loans and grants through the housing development fund (www.DEStateHousing.com/Council.shtml).

Mr. Peters came to Delaware with his wife in 2001, when she was called as rector of Church of the Ascension. The following year the bishop nominated Peters to serve on the Board of the Interfaith Community Housing Delaware, a Wilmington organization that provides affordable housing in the state, having built communities from Overlook Colony in Claymont, to Colony West in Milford. In 2003, Peters became vice-chair of Interfaith, and served as chair from June 2005 to June 2007. During his tenure as chair, Peters merged Interfaith with the Latin-American Community Center Development Corp. and Community Housing, Inc., doubling the size of the organization. Peters led the Board in developing a strategic plan positioning the organization well into 2012. Interfaith also implemented three low-income housing tax-credit projects with the Delaware State Housing Authority, as well as multiple individual home ownership units. Interfaith also offers individual home ownership counseling.



Peters moved to Millsboro in 2005 and joined the board of directors of the Sussex County Habitat for Humanity in January 2007, becoming president in June of that year. In his year and a half in that capacity, Habitat has increased the number of houses it builds annually from five to eight with a strategic vision of building twenty houses or more annually in the next five years. Habitat recently acquired a house in Georgetown where it plans to house AmeriCorps volunteers to help meet its ambitious construction goals. Sussex County Habitat for Humanity is currently investigating other avenues to provide safe, affordable housing for low-income families in Sussex County.

PARISH LIFE DAY

GO GREEN
Caring for Creation

November 22, 2008
8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
St. Anne's Episcopal School
Middletown, DE

Register Online Now!

www.DioceesofDelaware.net

First 50 online registrants will receive a Diocesan Golf Umbrella!

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

A free all-day program for ages 4-12 years old, led by Britta Bimbi, will focus on *Caring for Creation* and what it means to 'Go Green'. The day will also include Bible study activities, crafts, children cooking their own lunch & worship participation.

MORE . . .

Music, exhibitors, Christmas shopping, door prizes (to include overnight retreats & a session at Camp Arrowhead), fellowship, fun, homemade continental breakfast and lunch . . .

For details and to register, please visit our website: www.DioceesofDelaware.net

Workshops

MORNING:

- * **Caring for Creation: Helping Your Parish Build a Green Team** - What Does It Mean to 'Go Green'?
- * **We Got The Beat** - A joyous experience of drum circles led by Katy Gaughan, a drum circle facilitator from the Washington, DC area.
- * **A Centered Life** - Learn the discipline of Centering Prayer and bring peace to our harried lives, led by The Rev. Carlyle Gill.
- * **Enhance Your Consciousness with Kundalini Yoga** - Join Ellyn Stanek Hutton in a fun and illuminating series of yoga postures and breath work designed to open the spine and the energy centers of the body.
- * **Introduction To Islam** - Participants of this workshop, with Sam Sabrin, will explore some of the basic beliefs of Islam and tackle some of the pressing issues that face Islamic modern communities.
- * **Preaching on Controversial Subjects** - Join The Rev. Canon Lloyd Casson as he offers his wisdom on preaching in today's world.

AFTERNOON:

- * **Practicing Sabbath Economics** - Some practical daily steps households can take to live in the light of God's abundance and provision will be presented by Lisa Slinkard.
- * **The Word is Alive (through Liturgical Drama)** - Bible stories come to life in ways that capture interest and make them unforgettable. Led by Pat Van-Catledge.
- * **The Texts of the Incarnation** - To enrich the celebration of Christmas, The Rev. Ruth Lawson Kirk will lead an interactive bible study..
- * **Beyond Power Point to Powerful Presentations** - Multimedia presentations can add emotional power to worship services, stewardship presentations, and other church events. Led by Lee Ann Walling.
- * **Arts & Crafts** - Transform your energy through the work of your hands as you create your own craft. Led by St. Anne's School Art Instructor, Charlotte Howard.
- * **Vestries: Their Role from A to Z** - This workshop is based on the award-winning publication from the Episcopal Church Foundation, *The Vestry Resource Guide*. It is designed for newer vestry members, or for wardens and clergy who are responsible for orienting new members. Explore what it means to lead and manage a community of faith; how to share spiritual leadership; working to embrace differences; vestries and stewardship; managing transitions, etc. Share your insights about how to shape vestry service to be meaningful and effective.
- * **'We Got The Beat'** - see morning description
- * **A Centered Life** - see morning description

REGISTRATION:

If you do not register online, please contact your church office for a registration form and brochure.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE (PAGE A)

Delaware Episcopalians Join in National Service of Repentance for Slavery

What a struggle for my poor brothers and sisters who were telling me what my people did to them. Yes, this is true and my heart is broken.

Pat Saunders:

It is easy to think that I had nothing to do with slavery: my family lived in the north, were people of very modest means, and could not possibly have had the opportunity or means to own slaves. This travesty has nothing to do with me. After all, I have always viewed this practice with revulsion and horror.

Then I heard the Presiding Bishop of the church of which I have been a life-long member read the many ways that the Episcopal Church was directly involved with slavery, and I cringed at the very words that were being uttered. Slavery does have something to do with me.

May this service be the first step in atoning for this terrible travesty that has been done to an entire group of God's people!

Kitty Esterly:

It was enlightening, shocking, and a privilege to be present.

The Friday session was the history of the Episcopal Church's part in sustaining slavery and continuing after the Civil War. Many of the wealthy in the North made their money on industry supported by slave labor in the South and Caribbean. Then, we listened to the progress made by six states in examining their own archives to uncover the complicity of the Episcopal Church in allowing and supporting slavery.

The silence of families descended from slaves as well as the whites refusing to tell the stories of the horror, the

money made, and the shame of slavery has allowed oppression to continue to the present.

A lady from New York described this as "Post-traumatic Slavery Syndrome." The Rev. Dr. Harold Lewis reminded us that the apology will not be accepted unless we do something.

On Saturday, we returned for the Service of Repentance, highlighted by the message from the Presiding Bishop. She clearly stated our responsibility and gave hope that we will make the commitment.

Ed Godden:

For Delaware Episcopalians, the long-planned service came after two showings of *Traces of the Trade*. In that documentary, narrator Katrina Browne says that we whites—who can so easily insist we had no part in slavery and turn a blind eye to its consequences—

might wish to face the true history and redress its tangible injustices out of a sense of grief, if not guilt. To me, that was a bulls-eye. But how can I enter grief over horrors and misdeeds I do not know about? As a white man, I can get started only by hearing and learning another history than the one I was taught. . . .

I told the congregation [at Immanuel on the Green] that for me discerning racism is a matter of discerning what "I don't know that I don't know." That's the crux of it. Not that I can possibly have overcome all the racism in which my society steeped me; but that even when I have the will to overcome, I still have these vast areas of life experience in which "I don't know what I don't know."

So for me the call now is not to talk, but to listen and learn.

[This is an edited excerpt from Ed's reflection, which can be found in full on our website, www.DioceesofDelaware.net.]

First Steps Primeros Pasos

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First Steps/Primeros Pasos First Graduating Class Waits for Commencement Exercises to Begin.

teaching both the English language and the Spanish language to all students. "We believe children learn better through play, games, and singing and those elements are part of our daily learning program," states Mrs. Cole. "I challenge our teachers to 'think outside the box.' Learning through song, we use tangible items such as musical instruments, building blocks, and flash cards and engage the children in open play. We also teach respect for each other and we discuss feelings. Because of our positive learning environment, most of our graduating students know more than what is expected in order to enter kindergarten."

The family outreach component, called TOGETHER, is an individually designed program providing open and respectful communication between staff, parents, students, and the community. TOGETHER helps families develop ways to assist and support their children's learning and effectively advocate for their children in public schools.

At the conclusion of the 2007/2008 school year, Mrs. Cole received one of two annual Robert Ferrara Grant Awards presented by the non-profit Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children (DAEYC). DAEYC's mission is to develop leadership and professional growth, promote high quality early care and education, and build community support and awareness of the needs of children and their families. Mrs. Cole received the award for her outstanding work in using music to help special needs children learn. Mrs. Cole used the award's grant money to purchase additional learning tools for the children.

First Steps Primeros Pasos' vision includes building a state-of-the-art permanent facility to serve 100 plus children. Fr. Earl Beshears, 2007/2008 Board President, comments, "In the meantime, in order to accommodate students on the growing waiting list, the learning center will move to St. Paul's Sunday School classrooms until the larger facility is built. The parish is

Donations to the Bishop's Mission Fund may be made online or sent to 2020 N. Tatnall St., Wilmington, DE 19802.

excited about the opportunity to having 30 laughing, singing, and learning children and their teachers share our church. They will be a blessing."



Trudy Cole, Primeros Pasos/First Steps' Director, in her office.

a similar place. These men basically had no one who supported them during their early formative years—no family member, teacher, preacher, or rabbi. No one to throw a ball with, go to school meetings with, or to tell them they were loved. What chance did they have for a normal, productive life when in so many cases they were on their own by the age of nine or ten?

This greatly depressed me—until I came to the conclusion that if they hadn't been sent to jail many of them would have been dead long ago.

As I became acclimated, I began to meet one-on-one with select inmates, most of them with long (or worse) sentences. I have learned a lot and hopefully helped a little. I now attempt to teach "parenting" in the Boot Camp, a sequestered area of SCI in which the courts allow certain offenders to participate. It is an intense six month program of Marine-like rehabilitation. These men, and a few women, are all quite young and willing to accept this

La Parroquia de la Trinidad

continued from front page (Page A)



Trinity's Latino ministry is vibrant and active, involving more than 50 families.

Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation. He visits parishioners in their homes to lead blessings in times of need and celebration.

In addition to the regular noon Eucharist every Sunday, Trinity celebrates many special cultural events throughout the year, including Dia de los Muertos (All Saints and Souls Departed), the beloved Christmastime ritual of Las Posadas, and Trinity's own "Fiesta Sunday" which is a joyful celebration of the last Sunday before Lent. In addition to baptisms, weddings, and funerals, the community celebrates Quinceanaras, a special celebration for a young woman and her family on her fifteenth birthday.

The parish also has a social worker on staff to lead community development, education, and advocacy efforts with the Latino community. The community work of the parish includes referrals and translation for medical, legal, and accounting professionals; assistance navigating public benefits systems; and advocacy for students and their families in local schools. The

parish also offers educational opportunities that lead to greater community engagement. Parish volunteers teach English as a second language, and Trinity partners with other local organizations for workshops in financial literacy, civil rights, and public safety.

The parish has also connected youth to opportunities that have expanded their horizons. This past summer, 11 young people from the parish went to Camp Arrowhead with scholarship support that helped reduce the cost of registration, provided some needed camp supplies, and funded a bus for travel to and from camp.

The spectrum of activities and programs that compose Latino Ministry at Trinity are supported by the Diocese of Delaware, the Jessie Ball DuPont fund, and the Trinity Foundation. Support from the Bishop's mission fund this year has enabled the parish to respond to the needs of a rapidly growing population, develop longer-term strategies for lay leadership development, and collaborate with other faith institutions that minister with the Latino community.

Serving Those Deemed "Unredeemable" continued from front page (Page A)

self-imposed guidance. It is a very challenging teaching experience for me.

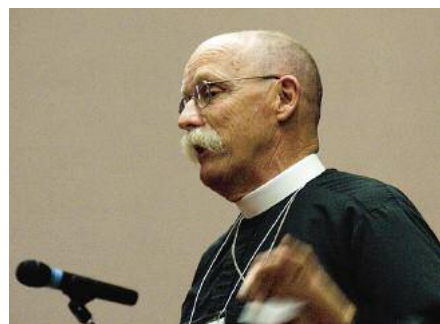
The celebration of the Holy Eucharist is a privilege I enjoy with the men in the general population on a regular basis as allowed by "the system." I employ a modified form of our familiar liturgy. The service attracts Christians of various denominations. For the most part, they are attentive and serious. Preaching is challenging and rewarding, at least from my perspec-

tive. We hold informal discussions within the context of the liturgy and continue to deepen our relationships.

I never leave SCI without a sense of wonder at the resilience of these inmates. The ones who are at peace—even if never getting out—are those who allow themselves to be open to a spiritual awakening and rebirth. Sadness and remorse open the door, figuratively, to a sense of personal responsibility. I am blessed to be allowed into the deepest places of these inmates' lives.

One final comment: I receive no greater respect as a priest than from these men society would rather not consider redeemable. I can assure you that the redemptive power of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is alive and well in our overabundance of prisons.

Please pray regularly for those incarcerated—and that I may be of value to the ones I am privileged to serve, thanks to the generosity of the diocese and the two churches I serve in lower Sussex County.



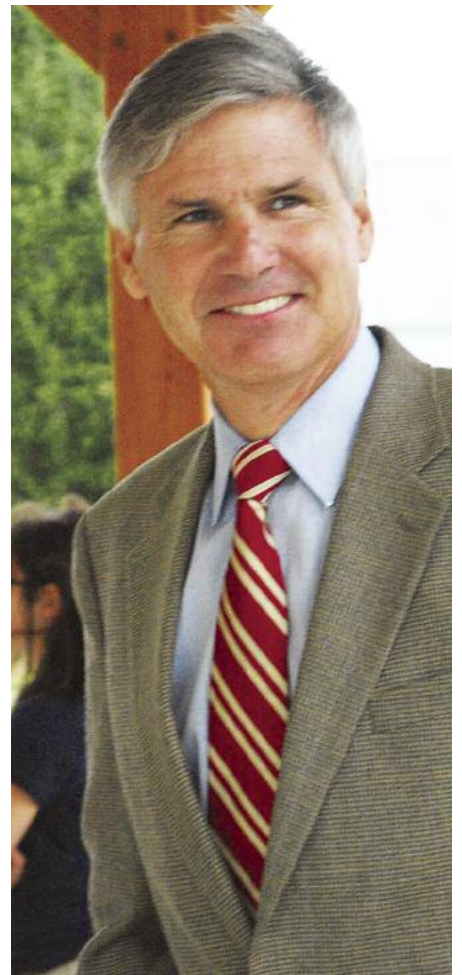
The Rev. David Archibald tells 2008 convention delegates about his ministry at Sussex Correctional Institution.



The bishop and the Rev. Louise Howlett, Chaplain, St. Anne's Episcopal School, dedicate the outdoor classroom.



Bishop Wright joins the children of St. Anne's Episcopal School as they process to dedicate their new outdoor classroom.



Gordon Brownlee, Director of Institutional Advancement at St. Andrews, is chairman of the board of trustees at St. Anne's.

St. Anne's Episcopal School celebrates annual Founders' Day Chapel and dedicates new Outdoor Classroom

by Lisa Chase, Director of Development, St. Anne's School, Middletown

Every year in the fall, St. Anne's Episcopal School celebrates the founding of the school with a special chapel service. This year's Founders' Day Chapel, held on September 25, 2008, was an especially extraordinary day in the life of the school as the Rt. Reverend Wayne Wright, Bishop of the Episcopal Church Diocese of Delaware, was the keynote speaker, along with Gordon Brownlee, chair of the board of trustees.

Recalling when the school was about to open in 2002, Bishop Wright told a story to the students and guests of being called by then board chair Caroline duPont Prickett, who asked him

to write something that would be engraved on a bronze plaque on the outside of the school building near the school's entrance. The plaque, which reads "May all who enter these doors grow in wisdom and love," is reflective of the school's mission to teach respect, responsibility, and compassion along with its dynamic curriculum to pre-kindergarteners through eighth graders. Bishop Wright reminded students that because they all share the daily opportunity to grow in wisdom and love, they celebrate a type of "Founders' Day" every time they walk through the doors.

St. Anne's Episcopal School holds a special place in Bishop Wright's heart because he was involved in the initial planning meetings even before the

school was built; because he has seen the school grow each year; and because the school is now a living example of what it means to be an Episcopal Church School.

Mr. Brownlee, board chair, spoke eloquently about the founding of the school and the important part each student, many of whom are older than the school, plays each day in the life of the school, Whether it is participating in jobs, representing the school in Math League, competing in sports, performing community service, or being a good friend, each activity builds greatness. "Each student and every teacher brings their own unique story, special gifts, and experiences to the school," he told the students, faculty and guests at the service. "You (the students) have liter-

ally helped build the traditions that now define your school. You have watched seven classes graduate before you and now it is your turn to lead the school, helping show the spirit and energy that makes this school special. You will add new traditions along the way. Together, every student from our youngest pre-kindergarten students to our senior eighth graders is helping to write the history of St. Anne's School."

After holding the chapel service in the school gymnasium, everyone walked down to the newly built Outdoor Classroom, where the Rev. Louise Howlett and Bishop Wright performed a special blessing ceremony and thanked all those who had developed the vision and built the structure for outdoor learning.

A PATH TO FREEDOM FOR EX-OFFENDERS IN DELAWARE



The Way Home Celebrates Tenth Anniversary

by Barbara Del Mastro, Director, The Way Home

For ten years The Way Home's dedicated staff, board, and volunteers have been working to serve the men and women leaving our Delaware prisons with diligence, faith, and hope for a better future. A United Thank Offering Grant, along with a grant from the Criminal Justice Council, and a whole

lot of prayer got us on the roads to and from the prison gates!

The Way Home began in the midst of a prison Bible Study in the Chapel of the Sussex Correctional Institution in 1997. Together, under the leadership and inspiration of the Reverend Jim Lewis, a small discipleship group from St. Martha's of Bethany Beach learned something of what it takes to live a faithful life in prison – and something of what it takes to support and encourage a person leaving the prison gates. We are still learning, and our best teachers are our Way Home participants. Their courage and persistence in the struggle to get on their feet and make the total life changes necessary for survival inspires and motivates us.

The work of The Way Home is making a difference in the lives of the people around us. We know this from our day to day work: participants getting off of probation after years of being in the system; families being re-united; GEDs, college, and trades degrees earned; jobs secured; people driving with valid licenses for the first time in years, and many, many other accomplishments. The hallmark of our work is intensive, individualized case management. We tell our people, "Before you pick up a drink, a drug, or another charge, pick up the phone and call us." Our phones are on all the time.

We also know this from the University of Delaware statistical study, which

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St. Andrew's School Raises Record Amount to Fight AIDS



Text and photo by Jean B. Garnett, Associate Director of Communications, St. Andrew's School, Middletown

St. Andreans joined with thousands on Sunday, Sept. 28, to participate in the 22nd annual Wilmington AIDS Walk. Each year, dedicated students and faculty work hard to raise money for the fight against this disease, and the walk has become an important St. Andrew's tradition in which almost the entire community takes part.

After brunch, the community gathered in front of the School for an outdoor chapel service before the departure. The service included a talk by Bill Cashion, St. Andrew's technology coordinator who heads fundraising for the AIDS Walk each year by selling his favorite southern soda, Cheerwine.

This year, St. Andrew's raised over \$3,600 to fight AIDS, topping last year's record-breaking amount by over \$500, a great triumph and a testament to the community's commitment to and concern for the cause.

When the buses arrived in Wilmington's Rockford Park, a sea of red-shirted students poured out to join the crowd. From the higher points in the walk, red constellations of St. Andreans stood out in the line of walkers.

The five-kilometer trek through the park offered an opportunity to catch up with old friends, get to know new ones, or simply enjoy the landscape and the feeling of walking together with a common purpose.

Dark clouds gathered near the finish line and a downpour hit the park just as students were heading back to board the buses. A few students had thought ahead and brought umbrellas, but the shower was so dense that they were of little avail. The day had been hot and the walk tiring, and many rejoiced in the cool rain as a welcome surprise.

Back on the sunny St. Andrew's campus, the walkers disembarked drenched and triumphant, proud to have shared in such a significant event.

CONTINUED...

The Way Home Celebrates Tenth Anniversary

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shows that those in our program are doing twice as well in terms of staying out of jail than are the men and women who receive no such services. Undergirding all of our work is the strong faith connection that we seek to forge with all those in need who walk through our doors. It is God that inspires this work. This work is beyond our effort and best intentions. We see miracles every day.

We are celebrating this ministry of ten years of service with a celebration and dinner on Saturday, November 15 at the Saint George's Chapel Parish

Hall at 20274 Beaver Dam Road in Harbeson, and we cordially invite all of our friends from the Episcopal Diocese of Delaware! Our evening will begin with a reception at 5:30 p.m., with dinner and program to follow. Please RSVP to our office at 856 - 9870 by November 10. Your faithful support for this ministry has been a mainstay, and we are so grateful to be an affiliate of the Diocese of Delaware as we work to fulfill the gospel imperatives to clothe the naked, feed the hungry, encourage those who are down hearted, and visit those in prison.

We hope that you will join us in November, and we ask you to please keep this vital ministry in your prayers.

Photo Caption: The Rev. Max Wolf leads the blessing of The Way Home's men's home House of Ruth in June. The organization celebrates its tenth anniversary this fall.



The People of St. Mary's, Bridgeville, created pinwheels for peace on the United Nation's International Day of Peace on September 21.

Kent

Christ Church, **Dover**, enhanced their welcome this summer by launching their "Month of Sundaes" campaign in which they hosted ice cream socials after each Sunday service in July.

St. Peter's, **Smyrna**, has initiated a parish nurse and health ministry. Crisi Morris, R.N. recently completed the Basic Parish Nurse Health Ministry course and is now forming a health cabinet with whom she'll set goals and shape the program.

The people of St. Stephen's, **Harrington**, welcomed the community throughout the summer for free movies, refreshments, and discussions on Wednesday evenings. They chose movies that "many people believe give great insights into Truth." Included in the lineup were films like *Babette's Feast*, *The Mission*, *Last Holiday*, and *Gallipoli*.

New Castle

Calvary Church, **Wilmington**, has acquired Serafin String Quartet as their associate artists for this year's concert season.

Parishioners from Christ Church Christiana Hundred, **Greenville**, are traveling to the village of Jalonga, Dominican Republic, in November. They'll be focusing on micro-finance in the village.

Immanuel Church, Highlands, **Wilmington**, received an unexpected gift. The catering manager of the Sheraton Suites was overseeing a redecorating of the banquet area, and she phoned the parish office and offered 150 banquet chairs as a thank you for the church's aid to the Wilmington community through their outreach ministries.

St. Albans, **Wilmington**, was the recipient of the Brandywine Community Award, presented by the Claymont Community Center for the parish's outstanding

volunteer work at the Food Closet. Sr. Sheila Brigid Sharpe, Deacon Postulant, leads a group of parishioners who staff the Food Closet three afternoons each week.

The people of St. Anne's, **Middletown**, are forming a children's choir.

St. David's, **Wilmington**, includes a profile of a new member/family in their monthly newsletter, providing a great way to introduce parishioners to one another.

The parish of St. James Mill Creek, **Wilmington**, dedicated an entire Sunday to the Nets for Life campaign of Episcopal Relief and Development. In addition to encouraging each family to donate a net, they provided opportunities for education, outreach, and volunteering during the event - all with an eye toward involving all parish families in helping the African families affected by this preventable tragedy.

Sussex

The people of St. John the Baptist, **Milton**, made Nets for Life their outreach focus for the month of September, with their vestry authorizing the matching of all funds raised for the program.

Parishioners from St. Mark's, **Millsboro**, initiated a community July 4th celebration that began with a solemn ceremony at their labyrinth and culminated in a children's parade to the city park, complete with trophies for the best decorated bikes, wagons, or kids.

St. Mary's, **Bridgeville**, celebrated the International Day of Peace on Sunday, September 21 by participating in the United Nation's Pinwheels for Peace program, making pinwheels that they displayed on the churchyard. The parish hopes to involve other congregations in the effort next year.



St. Thomas's, **Newark**, held a St. Francis Festival on October 4. Fr. Ray Nelson, Fr. John Brockmann, and Fr. Sarah Brockmann were there to do the blessings, and before and after that, numerous displays and stations offered opportunities to learn more about St. Francis. Additionally, John represented the Third Order of the Society of Saint Francis, and representatives of PAWS (an animal therapy group) and members of the Delaware chapter of Greyhound Pets (a rescue group) were there with friends. Photo by Bob Gilley.

Interfaith Resource Center Updates

by Paula Hartzell, Director, Interfaith Resource Center

How long has it been since you visited the Interfaith Resource Center's (IRC) website? Located at www.InterfaithResourceCenter.com, the website gives you details about the center; but, more importantly, it is our way of putting at your fingertips the best that the IRC has to offer. We include tips and suggestions, highlights of new resources, and quarterly lists that can be downloaded and kept for future reference. You will find our most recent information about our schedule including any last minute changes and scheduled closings.

One of the most valuable links is our online catalog. Over the past year, we have been busy enhancing the entries in our catalog to satisfy your need to know about the books or audiovisual resources. We want it to be as good as reading the book jacket! Don't hesitate to contact us at Resource.Ctr@dol.net or 477-0910 or (800) 336-6152 if you have any questions or you would like to reserve a resource. As gasoline gets more expensive, our online services provide a welcome alternative.

New Resources at the Center

Traces of the Trade is the film odyssey of the DeWolf Family, a wealthy and influential New England family that made their money in shipping and rum distilling. But behind that very respectable and prominent family history laid a rarely-spoken secret — the first generations of wealth came from the slave trade. Nine members of the DeWolf family, including Katrina Browne who organized the project, traveled to the DeWolf center of power in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, then to slave forts in Ghana, and finally to sugar plantations in Cuba to experience for themselves the sites of this triangle trade. This 86-minute DVD is a must-see for those seeking to address the legacy of racism and the need for reconciliation.

The Christian Life Profile is a small-group training kit for helping leaders facilitate a profile that goes far beyond spiritual gifts assessment and personality profiles to guide participants in their own progress toward becoming more Christlike. The kit includes one 4-session DVD, a training guide and one copy of the participant's workbook.

Seeing Gray in a World of Black & White by Adam Hamilton is a book and accompanying DVD devoted to the significant polarization in our country. Pastor Hamilton proposes a middle way consistent with Wesleyan theology in which thinking persons of faith model for the rest of the country a richer, more thoughtful conversation on the political, moral, and religious issues that divide us. Hamilton rejects the easy assumptions and sloppy analy-

sis of black and white thinking, seeking instead the truth that resides on all sides of the issues, and offering a faithful and compassionate way forward. The accompanying DVD is excerpts from Hamilton's sermon series on the topic. Hamilton's studies are always well done and engaging, earning his programs high marks for satisfaction with our viewers.

Green Resources

Great follow up ideas to Parish Life Day 2008!

In the past year I have had numerous conversations with local pastors looking to address issues related to ecology, energy conservation, and global warming. I believe many of our leaders sense that this is an issue too long ignored in the faith community. Discussion of our stewardship of God's world can provide a unifying forum for churches too often caught in debates that divide us. Honestly, this is a survival issue for our churches, as well as all of us individually. We can no longer afford to ignore it. As our political leaders strike deals for modest goals of fuel conservation by 2020, the reality is that faith communities are uniquely poised for leadership and innovation in this field.

I have begun to collect resources on the topic. We have activities that you can do with your congregation and audiovisual resources that examine the issues from the perspective of those that truly understand it. If you are interested in learning more, please contact me. The more we learn on this topic, the more we can share with others.

Stewardship of God's world is a multifaceted concern that includes globalization, traditional ecology, and conservation. Here are a few titles to begin your exploration:

The Greening of Faith is a two-part study, 30 minutes each, of the Biblical and sacramental foundation of ecology and the ethics related to stewardship of the earth with stunning photography and excellent commentary.

The Corporation is an award-winning look at the development of the modern global conglomerate, its history and pervasiveness, and the ethical dilemmas related to how the modern corporation operates. This 145-minute DVD with additional features will provide a wealth of material for discussion.

The End of Suburbia looks at the promise of the American dream as manifest in the suburbia of the 1950's and how it is on a collision course with the reality of energy dependence. This DVD program asserts that world supply of fossil fuels will peak in 2006 and increasingly will undermine the very structure of American life. This thought-provoking program will provide food for lively stewardship discussions.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Hosts 2nd Annual Distant Neighbors Fair Trade Festival

by Jessica Clark, St. Paul's, Georgetown

The phenomenal success of the 2007 Distant Neighbors Fair Trade Festival encouraged St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Georgetown to expand the 2008 festival with additional hours and many more affordable fair trade products. The weekend of activities is a unique shopping alternative; and the festival also furthers awareness of some of the economic and social challenges facing many people around the world.

Instead of searching crowded malls for appropriate holiday and other gifts, the public is invited to shop on Friday, November 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday November 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Purchases may be made with cash, check, Visa or MasterCard. Ethnic foods, beverages, and entertainment will be available. Door prize drawings will be held twice daily.

Shoppers will have an opportunity to purchase affordable, beautiful, quality jewelry, clothing, household items, holiday decorations, books, toys, coffees, baskets, and many other gift items — all with one thing in common: They are all Fair Trade articles. Fair Trade refers to the direct purchase of goods from people in developing nations. Based on economic and social justice principles, Fair Trade empowers and assures the talented low-income artisans who created the articles and farmers who grow the products a fair price for their labor, an opportunity to better their lives by providing financially for their families while achieving dignity in their work. Your dollars can make a difference for these less fortunate artisans and farmers.

Festival proceeds do not benefit St. Paul's, as the monies will help fund



Sussex Countian Marco Hernandez plays music of the Andes at the 2007 Distant Neighbors Festival.

economic development efforts abroad and at home in Sussex County. For a wonderful shopping opportunity, some fun for the family, and a way to serve our neighbors near and far, come to the Distant Neighbors Festival on November 21 and 22. For more information, call the church at 856-2894 or find more information online at www.StPaulsGeorgetown.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

To see the latest events, visit the Calendar of our website: www.DioceseofDelaware.net.

November

7 Friday – 8 Saturday
St. James Church Bazaar, St. James Mill Creek, Wilmington. Friday from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.; luncheon 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.. Shop Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.; turkey dinner by reservation – seatings at 3:30, 5:00, & 6:30. Shops include: Christmas Corner, Petals, Petal Alley, Craftily Yours, One Fine Yarn, ABC, Red Hat Corner, and Sweet Tooth. Details and dinner reservations: 994-1584.

8 Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
39th Annual Craft Fair, St. David's, Wilmington. Hand-made, unique crafts by mid-Atlantic crafters. Hot lunch featuring St. David's famous beef-vegetable soup and home-made desserts. Activities for children, the "Buck a Bottle" game, free babysitting, a silent auction, blood pressure station, used book sale, our "Attic Treasures," and a raffle for a homemade quilt. Contact

Chandra Allred for details at (610) 361-9001 or Chandra@AllredConsulting.com.

9 Sunday, 4:00 p.m.
Cathedral Choir School of Delaware Benefit Concert for Youth Piano Program, First & Central Presbyterian Church, Wilmington. Choir of the Cathedral Church of Saint John, featuring boys and girls from the Cathedral Choir School of Delaware, with special appearances by singers Matthew Hearn and Wallace Umberger and pianists Matthew Boatmon and Hiroko Yamazaki. General Concert tickets \$35; Patron level tickets \$50 to \$500; proceeds pay for pianos and lessons for the children. All attendees are invited to a post-concert reception hosted by The Honorable and Mrs. E. Norman Veasey. Details: www.CathedralChoirSchoolDE.org or 654-6279, ext. 2.

21 Friday – 22 Saturday
Distant Neighbors Festival, St. Paul's, Georgetown. Details: See article above.

22 Saturday, 8:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
Parish Life Day, St. Anne's School, Middletown. Details: See Page C.

Entertaining Angels: A Ministry of Hospitality



Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly and the people of St. Martha's, Bethany Beach, hosted visiting international student workers for a picnic this summer.



Peter (center) particularly appreciated the hospitality. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly (right) and Mary Wuslich (left) chatted with him at the picnic. Photos by William H. Wickham, III

by Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly, Seminarian

Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly is the Diocese of Delaware's lone seminarian. She served this summer as an intern at St. Martha's Bethany Beach. The following is a reflection on her time there.

One bright Sunday afternoon this summer, I was walking home from services at St. Martha's Bethany Beach. As I turned the corner, I noticed the lunch staff of a local restaurant setting up their outdoor lunch seating. As I got closer, I realized a young man on the staff was waving. Being new to town, I was fairly certain he was not waving at me; but I waved anyway, just in case. He got more excited at my return wave; and as I got closer, I realized it was Peter, a student from Slovakia I had met at the church picnic.

Peter was thrilled to know the name and face of a "local." We talked about services earlier that morning at St. Martha's. Peter eagerly asked me when the next picnic was. Knowing that the church had no other activities planned, I stammered through some half-promise of the possibility of another event. Peter was asking me to maintain the welcome I had extended through St. Martha's.

Later in the summer, I met Nadia at a pizza dinner held by a local United Methodist Church in the Bethany Beach area. Over pizza, Nadia, a student from Russia, and I began to discuss the Church. She explained to me that in Russia, young people do not go to church. Church is considered an old institution for the older people of Russia, with little implication for the lives of young people.

Nadia was fascinated with the idea that someone my age would want to become a priest. When I shared that I was preaching the following Sunday at St. Martha's, Nadia said, "I would like to come to your church and hear you preach." Suddenly I understood that building relationships and offering hospitality also meant inviting others into a relationship with God.

The theme of radical hospitality was overwhelming during my time at St.

Martha's. My task as summer intern was to help St. Martha's extend and organize their hospitality efforts towards international students. Meanwhile, I myself felt like a foreigner in need of hospitality. I had never lived in Bethany Beach and constantly had to ask for help finding the basic necessities in town. I had no place to live, but was graciously loaned a parishioner's home during my time there. I had no car, but was able to borrow one for the summer. There is no better way to understand what it means to offer hospitality than to be an active recipient of it yourself.

Operating this summer as a recipient and agent of hospitality allowed me to see Jesus' ministry toward neighbor in a new way. Jesus constantly kept company with marginalized in society. His most challenging call to ministry was that of hospitality. Hospitality does not always mean fixing problems, such as feeding the hungry, healing the sick, and comforting the poor. Hospitality is the act of entering into the vulnerable experience of relationship. It is a place of offering up one's resources, care, and presence with no expectation of return. Hospitality is not our natural tendency, and yet, scripture tells us, "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." (Heb 13.2)

Throughout tourist locations in the United States, international students obtain J1 visas to come to the US for work and travel. Whether at the grocery store, convenience store, restaurant, hotel, or lifeguard stand, students are present to serve the tourist industry. Upon arrival, students need a place to live, consistent work, a means of transportation – usually a bicycle, a Social Security card, health insurance that works, a community of support, and a host of cultural education. Some students have few problems in these areas. However, if one area becomes a problem, the answers are not always obvious to a foreigner.

St. Martha's has responded to these needs through the gift of hospitality. This past summer, they hosted an

evening of food and games at the parish, gave away welcome packets, welcomed students into their homes for meals, and offered referral services when possible. Over the coming year, St. Martha's will build a coalition within the community to extend their

hospitality work. St. Martha's work with international students is a living witness to the warm embrace of Christ. Their partnership with me this summer is a testament that their hospitality, like Christ's, has no boundaries.

BE STILL AND KNOW

"RELEASE"

*The suddenness of it was quite
Astonishing: I was no longer, and then I
Was, I AM again!*

The gritty grind of stone on stone . . . How

*Can I tell you the taste
Of that first rush of air through
The opened door, through the
Mask on my face, into
My dried lungs, into my
Dried soul? The strike of
Daylight on dead lids,
Snapping them open,*

*A blur, a radiance, the mask
Falling away, the Dearest's
Eyes meeting mine, the joy,
O - the joy of being known
At last! So new, so strange,*

So —

*Familiar to my bones.
The wraps are coming off,
All those dear hands, wet
With tears, unbind me, and
All their eyes call me
Forth in love, to take my place
In the Dance.*

—LaRue A. Manning

Be Still and Know is a corner of the paper sometimes filled by the Spiritual Companions of the Diocese of Delaware. This is a ministry that serves both at the diocesan and parish levels. For more information contact Phillip Stephens at the bishop's office: 656-5441.