



CROSSTOWN

November 2007

At the foot of the cross in downtown St. Petersburg

A New Church Year, a Time To Build

The Very Rev. Dr. Russell L. Johnson

Where does the time go? Here we are but a few weeks from the demolition of our buildings and the end of the Church year. It seems coincidental, but maybe God wanted it that way. God has us close out the year as we close out a history in bricks and mortar. Would God plan it that way? Perhaps.

I'm always glad about the Church year ending. I get worn down with the lessons following Pentecost. And I come to the end of the Church year filled with

anticipation for the new year and the chance to live out the ebb and flow of Christ's life once again with Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost.

I am filled with anticipation of the new life that will be born as we build out new spaces. It's been a long haul for me, and longer for you, to finally arrive at the beginning of construction. We all have worked so hard at making this possible. The demolition and new construction have been a dream for more than a

decade, and now it will happen. With it will come new life, new ministry, and new people. God's life through us will be renewed here in the center of the city and for years to come.

New Church year . . . new life. I like it. I like to think God planned it that way.

Be strong, be in God.

The Big Day Is Coming This Month!

Pat Wahlen, Building Committee Chair

At long last, the moment is here!

November will be a big month for us at the Cathedral. Demolition will actually start on our old buildings, taking us one step closer to construction of our new buildings.

Here's where we stand:

Asbestos abatement has been completed on the classroom building (the

three-story building with the Guild Room and the Library and the restrooms on the ground floor) and the Parish Hall.

Abatement now moves to the five-story building (the Cathedral Center for Ministry), and should continue through November.

Demolition will start in early November with the Parish Hall. We look forward to commemorating the start of demolition and will let you know as soon as we have a date.

We have selected Peter R. Brown Construction of Clearwater as our general contractor. We were impressed with Brown's experience, their track record on projects like ours, and their cooperative attitude and can-do spirit.

We will now work with Brown through January to put the final figures together on the cost of construction and

get the numbers to where we feel comfortable.

While there is much excitement about moving forward, I know there is some grieving and sadness as we say goodbye to buildings where many of us have spent countless hours and celebrated important events in our spiritual lives. It's okay to feel that sadness, to be a little anxious about what the future might hold. We remember the words of the prophet Jeremiah: "For I know the plans that I have for you, declares the Lord: Plans to prosper you, not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

All this is in God's hands and we know God did not bring us this far to fail. One member of our congregation remarked recently, "I didn't think I'd live to see the day when this was actually happening." It is! Thanks be to God!

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Yes! We are collecting calendars again this year! **Bring in your 2008 calendars** and leave them on the Welcome Cart or put them in the box under the mailboxes in the office. Each year we send calendars to the Seamen's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey. The calendars are distributed to seafarers at the Port of Newark to help them keep track of time during lengthy voyages. Last year we shipped more than 300 calendars.

* * *

Speaking of calendars, mark yours for our **Alternate Gifts Fair** on Sunday, December 2. This is your time to "shop" for gifts offered by Episcopal Relief and Development. Buy a duck or goose, a share of a fish farm, a cow, a fruit tree for people in developing countries to provide sources of income and food. Honor friends and loved ones by making the gift in their name and sending them cards to let them know. Buy a hive of bees in honor of your "honey" . . . or isn't there someone you know for whom a goat is the very thing?

* * *

Our work team heads for New Orleans November 23-28. This time, instead of gutting flooded homes, we'll be building anew. If you'd like to join the team, please speak to Canon Conner. Participants pay their own expenses and airfare (around \$215 on Southwest). It's the toughest job you'll ever love.

* * *

There's still time to get a ticket to hear the **Raleigh Ringers**, an internationally acclaimed bell choir from Raleigh, N.C. Join the Cathedral Bell Choir to attend this concert, at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, November 11, at the Lakeland Center in Lakeland. Tickets are \$18 each, \$15 if we have a group of at least 10. Information and tickets: Rick Waterman or John Hoover.

Harvest an Evening of Fun, Funds, Food

See you at Harvest Gatherings, an evening of wonderful food, fun, and fundraising at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, November 3 at the historic St. Petersburg Shuffleboard Club on Fifth Street just north of the Cathedral.

The Episcopal Church Women are sponsoring this festive evening. It begins with wine and cheese and the piano stylings of our organ scholar, John Mason. That will provide a background as guests sign up for events sponsored by parishioners: parties, wine-tastings, card parties, children's tea parties, cocktail parties.

Dinner is an Old-Florida Spanish menu, followed by a live auction of popular items from past Harvest Festivals.

"We're offering people the opportunity to bid on gatherings and events rather than on items, because we have nowhere to store things," said ECW president Sandy Hoover. "The proceeds go to underwriting free parish-wide events so we can all enjoy each other's fellowship in the coming year."

Tickets are \$35. Please call the office (727-822-4173) for a last-minute reservation.



Upcoming Events

Calendars start to fill up fast. Here are the dates of some major events at the Cathedral in the next few months. We'll have details as these events draw near:

Sunday, **December 2**, at 4 p.m.: **Advent Procession.**

Sunday, **December 9**, at 7:30 p.m.: Bach's "**Christmas Oratorio.**"

Sunday, **December 16**, at 7:30 p.m.: Handel's "**Messiah.**"

Sunday, **December 23**, at 7 p.m.: "**O Magnum Mysterium,**" carols, music, and readings for Christmastide.

Sunday, **January 6**, 10:30 a.m.: "**Meet the Candidates,**" a chance to meet and hear from candidates seeking election to the Chapter.

Sunday, **January 6**, 4 p.m.: **Epiphany Procession.**

January 13-18: John Bell, musician from the Iona Community in Scotland whose music we often use, will be our Theologian-in-Residence.

Sunday, **January 20**, 10:30 a.m.: Presentation of the **2008 budget.**

Sunday, **January 27: Annual Meeting.**



Heartfelt Thanks from Bishop Smith

Dorothy Smith, the mother of our new bishop, Dabney T. Smith, died in August. Mrs. Smith, who lived at Westminster Palms, was a member of our congregation. Recently Bishop Smith wrote this note to the congregation of St. Peter's:

Dear Friends at St. Peter's Cathedral,

Thank you for the flowers, loving care, and pastoral attention to my mother, to Mary Ellen, and to me. Mother felt very cared for and loved by you. Her death was holy . . . and you made her life richer. Thank you and God bless you.

*Jesus in Christ,
Dabney T. Smith*

Diocese Elects General Convention Deputies

Deputies from this diocese to the 2009 General Convention of the Episcopal Church were elected October 20 at the annual diocesan convention, held this year in Venice.

The four clergy members are the Rev. Ray Bonoan, Holy Spirit, Safety Harbor; the Rev. Bob Hennagin, St. Hilary's, Fort Myers; the Rev. John Hiers, Ascension, Clearwater; and the Rev. Sharon Lewis, Holy Spirit, Osprey. The first alternate is the Rev. Michael Rowe, St. Mary's, Bonita Springs; the second alternate is the Rev. Gigi Conner, canon evangelist at St. Peter's.

The lay deputation comprises Navita Cummings James of St. James House of Prayer, Tampa; Joan Kline and Roger Schwenke, both of Ascension, Clearwater; and Karen Patterson, St. Mary's, Dade City. Judy Stark of St. Peter's is the first alternate; Michael Howell of St. Vincent's, St. Petersburg, is the second alternate.

The convention will be in Anaheim, Calif., July 8-17, 2009.

Details about other actions of Diocesan Convention are at the diocesan web site, www.episcopalswfl.org.



Come for Thanksgiving Dinner

Enjoy Thanksgiving dinner with fun and fellowship at the Cathedral.

Our service that morning is at 10 a.m. We'll sing the old familiar Thanksgiving hymns. At 11:30, we'll serve appetizers followed by a turkey dinner in our temporary space at 201 Fourth St. N. The Cathedral provides the turkeys, gravy, and stuffing. You provide everything else: rolls, side dishes, desserts. Come hungry!

Please call the office (727-822-4173) so we know how many are coming and we can be sure to have a place set for you.



Caring for God's Creation

Our newly formed Young Episcopal Stewards smile under the watchful eye of our St. Peter statue after participating in the International Coastal Clean-up in October. The Stewards are a service group for all middle and high school students. They focus on our role in God's plan of caring for each other and the environment. They meet for a monthly service project. Contact Martha Goodwill or Melissa Barlow if you'd like to be a Steward.

Crosswinds, from page 2

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If you haven't turned in your **pledge card** yet for 2008, there's no better time than now to do so. If you didn't get a pledge card, please call the office (727-822-4173) and it will be our great pleasure to make sure you get one promptly.

* * *

At the "Dinner with Friends" stewardship dinner October 17, Dean Johnson announced the formation of a **Legacy Society**, i.e., parishioners who have agreed to include St. Peter's in their wills. This is a wonderful way to supplement our endowment and make sure St. Peter's is still here, long after we're gone. Best thing about it: This costs you nothing out of pocket now. You'll be hearing more about this in the new year, and Blanton Garnett will be glad to speak with you about it.

* * *

At its October meeting **the Chapter approved** on second reading revisions to the bylaws. A copy of the newly amended bylaws is available in the office for your inspection. In other action, the Nominating Committee continues to seek candidates to fill vacancies on Chapter at the Annual Meeting in January. Interested people should speak to the chair, Marianne Hallas. Candidates can also self-nominate; petition are available in the office.

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Your spare change goes a long way toward helping our homeless neighbors through your support of **Our Daily Bread**. Please put your spare change — coins or paper — in the BLUE Our Daily Bread envelopes, which you'll find in the pews; at the back of the church as you enter; and on the pew at the garden entrance.

These small contributions add up and keep Our Daily Bread self-sufficient. Last year parishioners contributed about \$10,000 through these blue envelopes. Thank you!

St. Peter's: A Guide

With God's help, we will welcome all people.

Weekend Worship

Saturday

5 p.m.: Holy Communion and Homily
A traditional service, no music

Sunday

7:30 a.m.: Holy Communion and Homily
A traditional service, no music

9 a.m.: Holy Communion (child-friendly) and Homily
A spirit-filled celebration, with hymns and choir

11:15 a.m.: Choral Holy Communion and Homily
A sung service with choir

6 p.m.: CAYA (Come As You Are)
*Holy Communion in the round, followed by a shared supper.
Celtic prayers and music from around the world.*

Monday-Friday

Morning Prayer, 9 a.m. ☩ Evening Prayer, 4:45 p.m.

Wednesday

Service of Healing, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Choral Evensong, 6:15 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Holy Communion, 12:05 p.m.



Visiting/getting in touch

Office/Parish Center: 201 Fourth St. N. (33701). Church entrance: On Second Ave. N just west of Fourth St. Please use the garden door on weekdays.

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The Rev. Clyde Nabe, assisting priest

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At any time after hours you have a **pastoral emergency**, call (727) 742-3371 (Dean Johnson) or (727) 742-8509 (Canon Conner).

Crosstown is the newsletter of the people of St. Peter's Episcopal Cathedral, published monthly for members, friends, and supporters. Editor, Judy Stark ([judystark@yahoo.com](mailto:judy Stark@yahoo.com)); Associate Editor, Mary W. Matthews (mothermary@extremelysmart.com). **Next deadline: November 15, 2007.**

St. Peter's Episcopal Cathedral
The Episcopal Seat of the Diocese of Southwest Florida
The Rt. Rev. Dr. Dabney T. Smith, Bishop

Transitions

November Birthdays

1 Judith Arsenault William Gordon	5 Mark Howlett Adelia Samaha	11 Justin Grimshaw Walt Williams	21 Alexandra Blacker Myra Witko	26 Michael Adams
2 Cathy Bogart Blanton Garnett John Irwin Jeff Jones	6 Mary Matthews Colin Mulligan George Scott	12 Fred Boette Pat Howells Penny Robbins	22 Kara Hudgins	27 Caitlin Garnett Heather Hollingsworth Bev Taber-Bowman
3 Alexander Demiduke	8 John Giles Cellia Plummer	13 Suzanne Haines Evan Randolph	23 Annalee Bowen Danielle Singleton	28 Karen Carroll Susan Churuti
4 Jenny Giles Emily Williams	9 Martha Goodwill	15 Hadley Heindel	24 Eddy Burns Connor Gordon Loretta King Marcie Lipscomb	29 Virginia Brew Dale Howells Cassie Ramsey Barbara Wagner-Beyhl
	10 Jessica Mellon Lee Ramsey	16 Cassidy Gums	25 Richard Gorton Cynthia Sinclair	
		17 Beverly Adkins Ellen Hyland		

November Anniversaries

3 Dallas & Diane Holtman	15 Jack & Susan Regan	23 Fred & Susan Stansbery
14 Barry & Dilia Singleton	21 Carl & La Nona Robinson	27 Dede & Paul Natale
		29 Jeff & Karen Hudgins



UTO: Say Thanks and Give Back

The fall ingathering of the United Thank Offering (UTO) will take place on Sunday, November 4. We'll have special blue envelopes available for your gifts.

The mission of the United Thank Offering is to expand the circle of thankful people. UTO encourages daily prayers, offerings, and awareness of the abundance of God's blessings. UTO is a program of the Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church, founded by and administered by women since 1889.

The funds contributed in more than 7,000 congregations are used to provide grants given in the United States and abroad. In 2007 UTO gave 104 grants totaling \$2.4-million. Two of those grants were given here in Southwest Florida: \$30,000 to Holy Spirit, Safety Harbor, for a van, and \$12,600 to Lamb of God, Fort Myers, to support ministry to a Haitian congregation. Learn more about UTO at www.episcopalchurch.org/uto.

Music for November

Sunday, November 4, at 4 p.m.: **Cheubini's "Requiem for All Souls,"** performed by the Schola Cantorum, the Choral Scholars and the Festival Orchestra.

Sunday, November 11, at 11:15 a.m.: **Orchestral Mass, Mozart's "Missa Brevis,"** K 259.

Just a reminder that we offer Choral Evensong at 6:15 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in the Cathedral. This brief but lovely prayer service, at which various Cathedral choral groups perform, is a calming end to a busy day.

Movie Night

Movies continue at 7 p.m. Fridays on our new big screen in the atrium at our temporary office, 201 Fourth St. N. Here's the lineup for November:

November 2: "Central Station," Brazil, 1998

November 9:
"Paradise Now," Palestine, 2005

November 16:
"Life and Nothing But," France, 1989

November 23:
No movie

November 30: "The Valet," France, 2006



For details about the films, visit our web site at www.spcathedral.net, or check bulletin boards at the church.