



Canterbury Tales

St. Augustine of Canterbury Episcopal Church

August 2008

Volume 1, Issue 1

The Rev. Elizabeth (Betsy) Powell, Rector

Treading on Holy Ground

Members of the Vestry
 Alvan Richey (2009)
 Sr. Warden 243-0057
 Fellowship

David G. Dye (2008),
 Jr. Warden 396-6256
 Grounds & Facilities

Richard Apps (2009)
 939-5972
 Stewardship

Joel Rudman (2010)
 515-2952
 Youth/Children

Cindi Lowden (2010)
 936-5686
 Education

Kelly Powell (2011)
 515-1205
 Pastoral Care

Teresa Dye, Treasurer
 Stanley Jensen,
 Assistant Treasurer

Virginia Brown,
 Clerk of Vestry

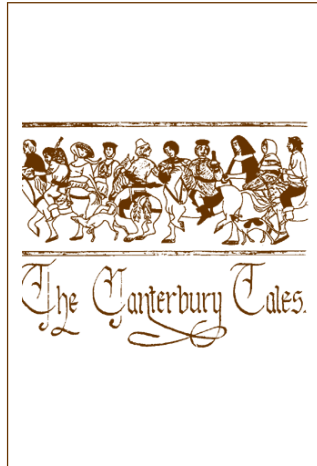
This newest issue of St. Augustine's newsletter has a new name – Canterbury Tales – with the obvious connections to Geoffrey Chaucer's famous 14th century tale of pilgrims sharing their stories as they make their way to Canterbury Cathedral.

This new title seems a good reminder that as the Body of Christ we are not only to worship side by side week by week, but we are also to share stories of our lives with one another as well. There are so many opportunities to do so – by way of our newsletter, in small groups, at coffee hour and first Sunday Potluck, working together on our parish's various outreach projects, etc. to name only a few. Three new opportunities to do just this sort of sharing are highlighted in this current newsletter – Supper Clubs, the new Knitters' Guild, and a possible Education for Ministry seminar group. I encourage each of us

to be on the lookout for opportunities to tell our tales and share our stories as we walk the holy ground of Christian pilgrimage.

And speaking of "holy ground" – as someone who has walked the hallowed halls of hospitals in a prior vocation as pediatrician, I share the awareness of most healthcare workers that those halls traverse "holy ground," also. The bedside of one who is sick always seemed to me a sacred space – whether in a home or in a hospital, in a nursing home or in a neonatal nursery. At those bedsides over the years, I have come to learn much and have come to see Christ in countless ways through the eyes of the suffering. Indeed the newest edition of the Church's little collection of prayers and liturgies to be used in times of

(Continued on page 2)



Church Staff

Director of Christian Education - Nita Morris

Secretary - Jane Nolan

Choir Director - Donna Howard

Organist - O.R. Smith

Nursery - Wanda Thomas

Editor - Libbi Crowe

Yard Sale!

August 9 8 AM till 2 PM

*It is not too late to donate items nor to sign up to help!
 Food and fellowship will be part of the day as well!
 Don't miss it!*

(Continued from page 1)

sickness has undergone a change in its title. Instead of *Ministry to the Sick*, the slim green volume is now entitled *Ministry with the Sick* [emphasis mine]. Pastoral visits - both with the recovering and with the dying, with the acutely ill and with the chronically ill - are opportunities for us to share stories, to share



prayer, and to share our faith. It has been said that “we are all wounded, and our process of healing is aided by telling our story.” (Larry Dossey, M.D. author of *Healing Words: The Power of Prayer and the Practice of Medicine*).

Your priest wants to “be there” for you and for your families in times of illness and need. But all too often, clergy are among the last to learn of such situations. You are encouraged to give the church office a call when you or a loved one is hospitalized. Allow me to stand with you on that particular holy ground, to bring the ministrations and sacraments of the Church, and to share the reality and mystery of Christ’s loving presence in that setting as well.

Well, back to Canterbury Tales. Let’s commit ourselves to listening to the stories of our fellow pilgrims of St. Augustine of Canterbury and to be willing to share our lives with one another – remembering always that it indeed is holy ground on which we tread as we journey together toward a fuller life in Christ.

God’s peace,

Mother Betsy+

St. Augustine’s on the Road

Many thanks to all who have brought bulletins from churches that they have visited while away from home over the last few months. Our parishioners have brought bulletins from

- Church of the Epiphany, Crestview, FL (Betsy and David Powell);
- Dawson Memorial Baptist Church, Birmingham, AL;
- Grace Episcopal Church, Gainesville, GA (Betsy and David Powell);
- Trinity Episcopal Church, Belleville, MI;
- St. Christopher’s Episcopal Church, Pensacola, FL;
- The Episcopal Church of St. Francis of Assisi, Indian Springs, AL (Father Neil’s new church);
- Church of the Holy Cross, Valle Crucis, North Carolina;
- Washington National Cathedral (Betsy and David Powell);
- St. Columb’s Episcopal Church, Ridgeland, MS (Ginny Brown);
- St. Matthew’s Episcopal

Church, Chipley, FL (Rich and Pamela Apps).

Thanks to all of you who brought these bulletins home – be sure to put your name on them, too, so you can get “credit”!! Amd, let’s all remember that, according to our Catechism, one of the duties of all Christians is to “come together week by week for corporate worship.” [BCP, p. 856]. Even when we are away from home!! And it’s fun, too!

Knit Together

The new St. Augustine’s knitting guild (we are pondering a name at present) had a great first gathering with nine people showing an interest in knitting together for various outreach projects such as prayer shawls, mariners’ scarves, etc. Come and join us in the weeks to come if you are interested in being a part of this behind the scenes but important ministry. We will be meeting the first and third Thursdays of each month from 2:30 – 3:00 in Henderson Hall. All are welcome,; men, women young and not-so young! For questions call the church office.

EfM Deadline

St. Augustine’s is hoping to begin our first Education for Ministry seminar group in September. We will be meeting weekly on Tuesday afternoons from 1:00 – 3:30 during the academic year. Group size is limited to 12 (and we must have at least 6 to form a group). The deadline for signing up and paying the tuition fee of \$340 is **Monday, August 25**. Some scholarship assistance is available, depending on financial need. The first session will be **Tuesday, September 2**. For further information call the church office and speak with Mother Betsy.

Christian Ed News

By Nita Morris

Did you ever wonder how God is like a bubble? Just ask Othella Wright; she can tell you. Othella taught the Science portion of our Vacation Bible School, "Rainforest Adventure," and she did a wonderful job. Vacation Bible School would not be possible without people like her and her grandson Michael who walked children from room to room and David who was in charge of Rainforest games or Sarah who taught us all how to sing our "Tree Top" songs.

Sophie Rudman was there daily to walk around little ones from class to class. Sound easy? It's a tough job keeping all of those little guys under control. Speaking of little ones, Jessica Thompson was manning our nursery so that parents could help with VBS. Teresa Dye and Marty managed to feed all of us, and Marty always managed to be there when I

needed heavy things carried.

Al Richey made sure our sign was put up. Mother Betsy gave up many of her mornings and afternoons to lend her presence and her prayers, and even her skills as a physician. She was there too to remind me during the craziness, just why we there.

Lonnie has been great. He has been there for me for weeks listening to my craziness about how we were going to do things and how we were going to get it done. Thank you to all who supported us with donations and prayers.

Was VBS a success? I can't give the answer to you in numbers; we had an average of 32 students per day. That is not a large number compared to the 700 that the Community Life Center had last year. One mother commented our VBS was great because it is

personal and she feels her child gets a lot of attention. Another proclaimed her children just couldn't wait to come back every day, and yet another parent proclaimed how her children had been singing the songs all week. These are things we love to hear, however, they are not a true measure.

The real success in my mind would be determined by knowing whether we have brought just one child closer to Jesus. I hope we have! It did, however, bring a group of adults and teens, with all their differences in age, dress, opinions, race, religious beliefs, and busy lives, together for a week to teach and feel the love of our Lord. In these times I think we can call that a success, maybe even a small miracle.

This fall we will begin our Children's Christian Education classes on **August 17**.

Sunday School Pool Party August 17 @ the Hamamuras'

Christian Education will begin with a pool party this year on **August 17** after 10:30 service. All students and their parents are invited to the home of Glen and Brenda Hamaura at 7029 Calle Cabeza de Vaca. We will barbecue hot dogs and have snacks. Don't forget to bring a towel! If you have any questions please call 936-8361.

Kanuga Announces Annual Liturgical Arts Conference

**Two women from our Diocese leading classes
Liturgical Arts XI: "Holy Works for Holy Places"
Kanuga Conference Center, Hendersonville, NC
August 24 - 29, 2008
For choristers, needleworkers, weavers, quilters
and - new this year - potters!**

In its eleventh year, this conference is a valuable tool for all churches. Participants not only have the opportunity to learn a craft they can enjoy for years to come, they also have the joy of creating beautiful works of art for their parishes, as well as working, sharing and playing with folks of like interests.

Four women from Alabama are leading parts of this Liturgical Arts Conference. From our Diocese, **Sally Boom** from Montrose will be leading a class on "Stations of the Cross and Clergy Stoles: Advanced Canvaswork." **Provie Musso** from Daphne will be leading a class on "Using Found Materials to Create Personal Altars, Angels and Crosses." From the Diocese of Alabama, **Lark Howell** is the Chairman of the Conference and **The Rev. Susan Sloan** from Huntsville will be the Chaplain. Read about the entire conference on [Kanuga's website](http://kanuga.org/conferences/2008/larts.shtml)., <http://kanuga.org/conferences/2008/larts.shtml>

Confirmation a Family Affair!

Bishop Duncan made his annual visitation to the parish family of St. Augustine of Canterbury on the Day of Pentecost, May 11. It was a glorious and Holy Spirit-filled occasion. The day before, we held our Seventh Annual Pig Roast with a record turn-out – including Bishop and Kathy Duncan. On Pentecost the congregation gathered again for another sort of celebration and feast – Confirmation and Holy Eucharist! Among the seven confirmations and one reaffirmation of faith was the entire Henderson family! Mother Tracey, Father Shon, and

daughters Laura, Amy, and Jessica all received the laying-on-of-hands by Bishop Duncan on this same special day! May 11, 2008 will be an easy date for the family to remember in the future – Confirmation, Pentecost, and Mother's Day – all rolled into one!

Other members of the parish family at St. Augustine's confirmed May 11 were Brian and Larnell Lowman and Richard Smith, and Carol Pyle made a public reaffirmation of her faith. Congratulations to all!



L to R: Tracey, Shon, Bishop Duncan, Jessica Henderson, Mother Betsy Powell, Laura Henderson, and Amy Henderson

Preserving Our History

by Ginny Brown

That's a mouthful! How to do this? It starts with Baby Steps.

Bishop Duncan has asked each church to keep archives and to designate one person who will have the title "Archivist". Mother Betsy and the vestry designated me as St. Augustine's "Archivist". I have accepted, BUT it's far from being a one-person job. We'll need an "Archive Committee". Many decisions should not be made by one person. If you have any experience in archiving, now is the time to step forward. Your experience and input would be very valuable. Even if you don't have experience, would you please get involved with this very important and exciting work for the church? Please understand that I am treading on unfamiliar ground. I'll be learning with everyone else.

Let me explain a little about what I have learned so far. The definition of an archives is "a repository for the permanent records of an entity". All permanent records should be placed in the Parish Archives.

Church archives are classed as "institutional archives", as opposed to a library-style collection or a historical collection. The parish archives is a safe and secure place for the permanent retention of administrative, fiscal, legal, and historical records of enduring value to the legitimacy, operation, and mission of the parish. (This paragraph is information sent to me by Mark Duffy, Archivist, Episcopal Church Center.)

Items to be archived must be organized into groups, protected and stored properly, labeled properly for future retrieval, cataloged. There are recognized methods of doing all this. We will be enlisting the aid of a very knowledgeable person from the diocese to help us get started.

It can't be done overnight. We need to make a plan of action so that we may efficiently get it all under control. We'll need to plan some work days, especially at the beginning. We will soon need someone who can store things electronically, and we can get guidelines from Mark Duffy.

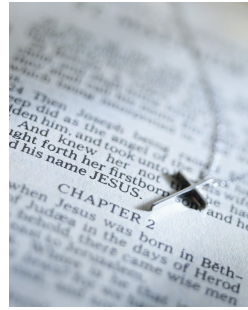
Donations to the church, such as the lovely drawings of the church done by Autry Dye, MUST be preserved and stored properly. Other, "informal or antiquarian interest", like photographs, videotapes and DVDs, newspaper clippings about our members and activities, etc. are also desirable, but they should not be the primary focus of the parish archives. Everything must be filed so it be located at need and protected so it won't disintegrate over time OR cause damage to other items nearby. We must decide what to keep and what to toss and how to arrange our inventory into groups.

Once we have achieved this, the committee will still be active, accepting new items and doing necessary maintenance work. At that time, we will encourage you to contribute items that you might have been safekeeping for the church.

If you can help, call me (Ginny Brown) at 939-2665, or e-mail me at v.brown@mchsi.com. I plan to call a preliminary meeting so we can get started.

Collage Workshop

Autry Dye will be leading an "Introduction to Collage" workshop at St. Augustine's on **September 13**, Saturday, from 9 – 3. Class size is limited so be sure and send your deposit of \$25 to Autry at 989 Great Oak Drive, Gulf Breeze, FL, 32563, as soon as possible. For further information please contact Autry at 932-5806.



Christian Education Kick Off Sunday

August 17 at 9:15 is the

first Sunday for the 2008-2009 Christian Education Program at St. Augustine's. There will be

something for everyone – three groups for children and youth and one for adults. Children and youth will be exploring various aspects of Scripture and faith using age-appropriate materials.

Adults will be beginning a study of the Gospel of Matthew led by Mother Betsy. Please come and join us for the first Sunday of an exciting year of Christian formation!!

Your Vestry Needs YOU!

by Al Richey

It is already the end of July. There are approximately 120 days until our St. Augustine Annual Meeting when we will elect new members to our vestry and delegates to the 2009 Diocesan Convention.

St. Augustine is having one of its best years. It became a Parish, membership is up, giving is up, attendance is up, we have a wonderful new priest, we had a successful Pig Roast, the Bishop has visited us; and we know God is always present in our church. We know this by the friendship and caring of all our members.

I also think it is important that you realize what your Vestry does and why we need you.

In the Vestry Handbook, its opening paragraph states, "The Vestry of an Episcopal Church has three primary responsibilities. The first two are managerial: to take care of the parish finances and parish buildings. The third responsibility is to choose individuals to fill various positions of parish leadership and representation, the election of a rector, the choices of delegates to the Diocesan

Convention, and the selection of other individuals as the Diocesan canons and parish by-laws may stipulate."

As you can see, we need to find members of St. Augustine to help it grow spiritually. We need new candidates for vestry, Sunday School teachers, choir members, flower and altar guild members. When I was asked to be a vestry member, I thought it would be a one night per month meeting. My answer was 'yes' because I wanted to give back something for all the good success I had been given in my family and business life. I did not realize how much I would receive in return.

An article in a recent Vestry Papers from the Episcopal Church Foundation asked "Good Vestry members.....born or grown?" It answered by saying that they

come both ways, some are grown and some are born. I like to think that I am a work in progress; but I do know this, that God and St. Augustine's have given me much more, and taught (is teaching) me more everyday than I could ever give. As two of my friends told me, "you cannot out give your church or God."

The main reason I have written this article is to point out the two reasons why one should consider being a Vestry member:

1. Your Vestry is a very important part of the Episcopal Church, and as one Vestry member once wrote, "I would like to thank that I have become part of the solution rather than part of the problem. Turns out being a vestry member is not the drudgery I imagined. It is a calling".

2. You have my word that if you become a vestry member, you will be rewarded much more than what you do as a member.

Please tell Mother Betsy or any of the Vestry if you are interested in being nominated for the vestry and/or working in any area of the Church.

God Bless!!



Sign up for Supper Clubs Now

By Libbi Crowe

The Lord often used meals with friends to convey his message of unconditional love. In that tradition, St. Augustine's has sponsored Supper Club groups for several years.

The Supper Clubs are monthly gatherings for food, fun, and Christian fellowship. Belonging to a Supper Club has proven to be a good way to become close friends with other members of the parish that you may not have met or known well before.

The groups are reorganized each fall, so now is the time to start. This is your opportunity to jump in! Everyone is welcome to participate.

A supper club is, in many ways, a glorified potluck dinner. Excellent food, congenial company, and divided work can make it the highlight of your month!

Last year we had two clubs. Ideally there are 8 to 10 people in each Club. If enough people are



interested, we can always form additional Clubs.

Each Club meets once a month, usually rotating the meeting place among the homes of the Club members. Usually the main dish and drinks are provided by the host of the dinner, and other members bring appetizer, vegetable, salad, and dessert.

However, the only hard and fast rule is that you meet. Each Club makes an effort to select meeting dates that will allow most of the members to be present. Not

everyone can attend every time, but if you meet regularly it will be a year of building strong friendships.

Some Clubs choose to have some of the monthly meetings at restaurants or special events, such as the concerts in the park or a baseball game. Some groups having children still living at home may choose to include them in the evening's events. Some groups choose to have other activities in addition to eating and talking such as games or music. Each group is welcome to develop its own approach, even doing something different each time!

The Clubs encourage including guests, especially someone new to the parish or looking for a church home. Those interested in joining one of the Supper Club teams should call or email:

Libbi Crowe
LibbiC@aol.com
(850) 515-0245

We will have a kickoff in September, so stay tuned!

Ten Reasons to Join the Choir

- **Every time you sing, an angel gets wings!**
- **We're just like American Idol, but it's for God and we let you stay.**
- **You get the best seats for Christmas and Easter.**
- **The collection plate is never passed to the choir.**
- **In heaven, you'll know all the words to the songs.**
- **It's just like singing in the shower, only with your clothes on and without water. Oh, and there's other people.**
- **Choir robes flatter every figure.**
- **You've been known to nod off during the service and don't want the priest to catch you.**
- **The chairs in the choir are more comfortable than the pews.**
- **When you sing, you pray twice!**

And the number one reason to join the choir is:

The St. Augustine's Choir will be returning from summer vacation to serve in the 10:30 worship service later in August. We will also be resuming our Wednesday

night, 6:30 p. m. choir practices at that time, the exact date of which to be announced in the next few weeks. We had a total of seven choir members (and O.R., our organist, of course) last year. We are always seeking more choir members, so if you feel called to serve the Lord in our singing ministry, please tell either Betsy, our Priest, or call Donna Howard at 939-905 with your joyful response to join us!

In His Name,
Donna Howard
Choir Director

August 2008

1
Rector's Day Off

2

3
8am Holy Eucharist
10:30am Holy Eucharist
12pm First Sunday Potluck and Food Offering

4
6:30pm Boy Scouts

5
6:30pm Venture Crew

6
9am HE/Healing

7
Knitter's Guild
2:30—4 PM

8
Rector's Day Off

9
Yard Sale!
9am Men's Fellowship

← 9 AM—1 PM Preparation for Yard Sale →
Ya'll come!

10
8am Holy Eucharist
10:30am Holy Eucharist

11
6:30pm Boy Scouts

12
6:30pm South Santa Rosa Writers Group

13
9am HE/Healing
10am Mom's Club Business Meeting
6-7:30pm Girl Scouts

14
15
Newsletter Deadline
Rector's Day Off

16

17
8am Holy Eucharist
9:15am Christian Ed.
10:30am Holy Eucharist
Pool Party!

18
6:30pm Boy Scouts

19
6:30pm Venture Crew

20
9am HE/Healing

21
Knitter's Guild
2:30—4 PM

22
Rector's Day Off

23

24
8am Holy Eucharist
9:15am Christian Ed.
10:30am Holy Eucharist

25
6:30pm Boy Scouts

26
6:30pm South Santa Rosa Writers Group

27
9am HE/Healing
6-7:30pm Girl Scouts

28
6:30pm Vestry Meeting

29
Rector's Day Off

30

31
8am Holy Eucharist
9:15am Christian Ed.
10:30am Holy Eucharist

1
6:30pm Boy Scouts

2
6:30pm Venture Crew
EFM First Session

3
9am HE/Healing
10am Mom's Club Business Meeting

4

5
Rector's Day Off

St. Augustine of Canterbury
Episcopal Church

The Rev. Elizabeth Powell (Betsy)
Rector

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Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

Mission Statement

We are called to spread the gospel and share the love of Jesus Christ by entering into communion with God and each other. We offer opportunities for spiritual growth through worship, fellowship, stewardship and service to others.



DIOCESE OF
THE CENTRAL GULF COAST
THE RT. REV.
PHILLIP M. DUNCAN, BISHOP
www.diocgc.org

Lay Ministry Schedule

Date	Time	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Acolyte	Usher
August 3 12 Pentecost	8 AM	David G. Dye	Teresa Dye	Martin Hawkins	Carol Tolbert
	10:30 AM	Brenda Hamamura	Chuck Howard	Bria Igo Ikaika Hamamura	Glen Hamamura John MacPherson
August 10 13 Pentecost	8 AM	Bill Mandigo	Donna Gassman	Donna Gassman	John Tolbert
	10:30 AM	Libbi Crowe	Brenda Hamamura	Jake Phillips Brian Phillips	Eric Straight Stan Jensen
August 17 14 Pentecost	8 AM	Brian Lowman	Patsy Richey	Patsy Richey	Alvan Richey
	10:30 AM	Rich Apps	Pam Apps	Jessica Thompson Rachel Williams	Brenda Hamamura David K. Dye
August 24 15 Pentecost	8 AM	Cindi Lowden	Donna Gassman	Donna Gassman	Carol Tolbert
	10:30 AM	David K. Dye	Autry Dye	Tyler Henshaw Grant Henshaw	Wally Henshaw Chuck Howard
August 31 16 Pentecost	8 AM	David G. Dye	Teresa Dye	Martin Hawkins	David G. Dye
	10:30 AM	John MacPherson	Alethea Straight	Amy Henderson Jessica Henderson	Rich Apps Pam Apps