

Glad Tidings

Pentecost

October 2010

The Church of the Nativity, Cedarcroft

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Fall has finally arrived. The weather is getting a little cooler. Before long the leaves will begin to change color. To me, it is always a welcome change. I always look forward to fall. The change of the seasons reminds me that God is in charge, that there is order. In addition, I enjoy the cooler weather, that bridge between the scorching heat of summer and the extreme cold of winter. The only thing I really don't like at this time of year is raking leaves. But, that is a small price to pay for the magnificent color palette that God displays for us each year.

In the fall things at Nativity begin to move at a faster pace. Our program year has begun again and is now in full swing. The Cedarcroft School has now been back in session for about a month and I enjoy hearing the sounds of children in the building every day.

For many, the fall is a time of re-commitment. Students re-commit themselves to the discipline of study and learning. Most of us have finished vacations and travel and commit ourselves anew to our jobs and our vocations. And, yes, there is also a recommitment to our faith and our church in the fall. Many people that have had a more relaxed schedule during the summer become more active at Nativity again in the fall.

One area at Nativity that is showing evidence of new vitality and energy is our Outreach Committee. Outreach has always been an important of the ministry that we do here at Nativity. For many years our Outreach Committee has been chaired by Debby Tupper. She has worked tirelessly. Under her leadership, Nativity has touched the lives of countless numbers of people in our community and beyond with the love of Jesus Christ. Although she will remain on the committee, she has stepped down as chair after nine years of faithful service. "Well done, good and faithful servant!" We now have a new chair of the Outreach Committee. At our last meeting Frank Russell was elected as the new chair. Frank and Betty Russell have been involved in many ministries to the homeless in our community for many years. We look forward to his leadership in the future. As with any new ministry, Frank has a heart for outreach. All of us on the committee are excited about the renewed energy he brings to our ministries to those who are less fortunate in our community. He has already led us to several successful new outreach projects. We had both winter and summer clothing drives for homeless men at the Rescue Mission. He and Betty have helped us to begin a ministry furnishing bag lunches to the patients at Healthcare for the Homeless once a month. And they have gotten us motivated to volunteer with them monthly on the Salvation Army's "Feedmore" van that delivers meals to indigent people in Baltimore's inner city. Welcome, Frank! We look forward to exploring, with you, new ways to reach out with Christ's love.

One thing that we talked about at the last Outreach meeting is the need to define exactly what our mission is. How do we define our community? We all are convinced that one way to restore vitality to the church and its outreach ministries is to find out the needs of the community that are not currently being met and identifying what we can do, and then do it well. Wouldn't it be wonderful if you mentioned to friends and neighbors that you attend the Church of the Nativity, Cedarcroft, and their response is, "Oh, that's the church that does xxxx." I have said before that I believe that God is calling us to a specific ministry that we have not yet identified that will energize the community and the parish. Do you have ideas about what that ministry might be? Do you want to help us explore the possibilities? Please join us for Outreach meetings. Being the church is not just about attending church on Sunday mornings. It is about taking the church out into the world the rest of the week. God is calling us! Will you answer the call?

Tom+

Baltimore International Seafarers' Center

DUCHESS OF PINTAIL HARBOR CRUISE



The 2010 Baltimore International Seafarers' Center Harbor cruise is scheduled for **Thursday, October 7th**, boarding at Inner Harbor Pier 5 promptly at 4:45 p.m. and returning about 7 p.m. . Please send checks for \$50.00 per guest which includes soft drinks, beer, wine and "happy hour" snacks to Baltimore International Seafarers' Center, 1430 Wallace St., Baltimore 21230. Names of guests would be helpful for nametag purposes. Deadline is September 17th. Please include e-mail or self addressed stamped envelope if you require confirmation. Additional information at MaryHTDavisson@aol.com or 410-685-1240.

An open invitation to help "the least of His brethren"

Father Carter's call to service September 19th is waiting for your response. Please join us at the Outreach Committee meeting on Monday, October 18th at 7 p.m. to discuss our plans to do "the work he has given us to do".
RSVP Frank Russell, Chairman,
Outreach Committee

Many years ago a tandem mausoleum crypt at Parkwood Cemetery was donated to the Church. We can't use it. Will sell below market rate. If interested, call Fr. Carter.

CENTENNIAL EVENT CALENDAR



October

- 3rd Blessing of the Animals
- 7th Duchess of Pintail Cruise
- 18th Outreach Committee Meeting
- 22nd Peace Service, St. Thomas' Church
1108 Providence Rd., Towson 21286

November

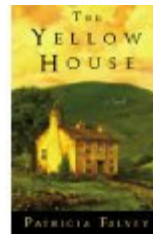
- 13th Afternoon High Tea
- 21st WORLD, Inc. Annual Meeting & Luncheon
- 22nd Peace Service, Cathedral of the Incarnation
TBD Celebration of International Diversity at Nativity

December

- 19th Greening of the church
- 22nd Peace Service, Calvary Baptist Church
- 25th Christmas Day
- 31st New Year's Eve Party

Nativity Book Club

By Catherine Bishop



The next meeting of the Nativity Book Club will be at 2:30, Sunday, October 17 in the room at the top of the elevator. The book we will be reading this month will be *The Yellow House*, by Patricia Falvey.

The author has written in her website, [it] "is the story of a young woman's search for home. Set in County Armagh in the early 1900's against a backdrop of the Irish Uprising, it reflects many stories my grandmother told me about those years."

"A family's future is in the hands of one very brave young Irishwoman in this story set between WWI and the growing violence of the Irish was of independence. Eileen O'Neill inherits a lifetime of struggle and heartbreak when her family is ripped apart by war, disease, mental illness and greed. And if civil war and family strife weren't enough to deal with, Eileen is torn between James Conlon, a passionate Irish nationalist, and Owen Sheridan, a British army officer and the son of a wealthy family. As the war's presence in her life intensified, Eileen continues to weigh her heart's pull against national pride, family loyalty, class divisions and her own spirit.

We hope that you will be motivated to borrow the book from the library, buy a paperback copy in a bookstore, or read it on Kindle and join us on the 17th.

PERCEPTION

. . . **Something To Think About** . . .

THE SITUATION

In Washington , DC , at a Metro Station, on a cold January morning in 2007, this man with a violin played six Bach pieces for about 45 minutes. During that time, approximately 2,000 people went through the station, most of them on their way to work. After about 3 minutes, a middle-aged man noticed that there was a musician playing. He slowed his pace and stopped for a few seconds, and then he hurried on to meet his schedule.

About 4minutes later:



The violinist received his first dollar. A woman threw money in the hat and, without stopping, continued to walk.

At 6 minutes:

A young man leaned against the wall to listen to him, then looked at his watch and started to walk again.

At 10 minutes:

3-year old boy stopped, but his mother tugged him along hurriedly. The kid stopped to look at the violinist again, but the mother pushed hard and the child continued to walk, turning his head the whole time. This action was repeated by several other children, but every parent - without exception - forced their children to move on quickly.

At 45 minutes:

The musician played continuously. Only 6 people stopped and listened for a short while. About 20 gave money but continued to walk at their normal pace. The man collected a total of \$32.

After 1 hour:

He finished playing and silence took over. No one noticed and no one applauded. There was no recognition at all.

No one knew this, but the violinist was **Joshua Bell**, one of the greatest musicians in the world. He played one of the most intricate pieces ever written, with a violin worth \$3.5 million dollars. Two days before, Joshua Bell sold-out a theater in Boston where the seats averaged \$100 each to sit and listen to him play the same music.

This is a true story. Joshua Bell, playing incognito in the D.C. Metro Station, was organized by the Washington Post as part of a social experiment about **perception, taste and people's priorities**.

This experiment raised several questions:

*In a common-place environment, at an inappropriate hour, do we perceive beauty?

*If so, do we stop to appreciate it?

*Do we recognize talent in an unexpected context?

One possible conclusion reached from this experiment could be this:

If we do not have a moment to stop and listen to one of the best musicians in the world, playing some of the finest music ever written, with one of the most beautiful instruments ever made . . .

How many other things are we missing as we rush through life?

Is GOD on this list?

Submitted by Amy Norwood



The mission of the Church of the Nativity is to faithfully love and serve Jesus Christ by embracing all people through worship, outreach, and fellowship in His name.



Remember our Nativity members who are home-bound or in health care facilities :



The Chimes
Georgie Berberich

Edenwald
Josephine Disney

Genesis Health Care Center
Betty Hall

Fairhaven
The Rev. Fred Hanna

Trinity House
Eileen Magaha

Stella Maris
Peggy Tice

Active Day at Parkville
Stephanie Yateman

Shut-ins at Home
Charles Clayton
Lovejoy Clayton
Chuck Dunn
Mae Hofmann
Rachel Marshall
Helen Whiteman
Isabel Wilner

PENTECOST
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