

The Magnificat

Aug 2017

LET'S DO LUNCH WITH PADS



Jane Schaefer



On a bright summer afternoon in June, Steve Kulbis and I went to the PADS Day Resource Center in Waukegan to deliver the bag lunches prepared by our Annunciation team. As we were leaving, a mom struggled to get her baby in a stroller through the door and up the stairs to the PADS office as she also corralled an active toddler. **Did you know** that 36% of PADS

clients are children? **Are you aware** that PADS offers services that go beyond providing overnight shelter and meals for the homeless? As important as this is, PADS provides so much more.

The goal of PADS is to help people move from homelessness into safe, adequate housing and self-sufficiency. At the Day Resource Center clients receive support and assistance to accomplish this through case management, life skills training, and counseling services. Case managers work with clients to help them get the assistance they need whether it be food stamps, GED courses, job training, obtaining a state ID, anger management, or fostering a healthy life style. A person's individualized plan might include participation in group sessions that are offered at the Day Resource Center. For more information about the extent of services offered check out the PADS website: www.padslakecounty.org.

In a small way, our year-round PADS ministry is helping people achieve their goals. Over the course of the summer we are providing bag lunches for PADS clients. A small group of parishioners meet on the second Friday of the month to make 40 lunches which each include 2 sandwiches, fruit, chips, dessert, condiments, and bottled water along with a hand wipe, napkins and eating utensils. In an hour and a half the lunches are ready to be delivered to the PADS Day Resource Center. Thanks to the many donations from parishioners, we are able to provide these lunches for a cost to the parish of approximately \$1.50 each. If you would like to help with

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Quick Links

Calendar
Annunciation Website
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Episcopal Diocese of Chicago



September

PARISH PICNIC - Sept 3rd 2 Services resume - Sept 10th

Book Club 2017

this outreach ministry, you are invited to volunteer and/or make a donation. Both are needed! See the sign-up at church or contact me

at 224-372-7940 or at cs.js@comcast.net.
We are the hands and heart of Jesus in our world!



The Parade



Parade news! Please make plans to join Annunciation on August 13th for the Gurnee Days parade!!! We are excited this year to unite with Boy Scout Troop 627 to walk the route together and share in a fun-filled and community-building day! The parade kicks off at noon and the route is approximately 1.5 miles long; additional information (maps, parking details, exact line-up position) will

be made available soon.

As traffic/parking is restricted near the parade route a few hours prior to the parade start time, we ask that you be at our designated line-up spot no later than 11:30am. If you would like to car pool, please meet in the church parking lot by 10:30am; rides to the church can also be provided if needed.

Because the theme is "Gurnee Days - Let's Play Ball" we ask that you wear your Annunciation shirt and a baseball cap, football helmet or tennis visor to represent your favorite sports team!!! If you do not have an Annunciation shirt, please join us anyway ALL are welcome!! Strollers, wheelchairs and wagons are also welcome, so feel free to decorate them and don't forget to invite a friend to join us, too!

Thank you to all who decorated pennants - identifying the church and BSA troop 627 - to carry with us! If you have any questions, please see Sue Whipple or Brian Penticoff.

Cory's Summer Project!

THANK YOU! On June 25th we hosted a "Halfway to Christmas" coffee hour on behalf of Cory's Project and raised over \$750.00 in gift cards and money donations to help support the children and their families on the cancer unit at the Children's Hospital in Milwaukee. Thank you for your continued prayers and generosity.

From Our Sr. Warden

Deb Gallinger

As we read this newsletter, we are still enjoying hot weather and some of us are still suffering the effects of historic flooding. But school starts in just a couple of weeks and for me, having grown up in an area where school started after Labor Day, the return to school indicates the end of summer and the beginning of fall. It also signals for me the return of the regular programs and

activities we enjoy and participate in throughout the year. But before I get ahead of myself, let's give due attention to our remaining summer events, then we can start to get ready for the activities this fall.



Book Club West Mon, August 7 Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm Location: Celebuski

Book Club East Mon, August 21 Time: 6:00pm-8:00pm Location: Potesta's in Waukegan

Lunch Bunch



Date: Wednesday, August 23, Time: 1:00pm-2:/00pm

Location: Lunch gathering for women of the parish at 1 pm. Location will rotate and date will be 4th Wed of each month. For reservations contact Jane Schaefer at 224-372-7940 or at cs.js@comcast.net





Outreach Opportunities

LET'S DO LUNCH - PADS SUMMER LUNCHES

We will prepare 40 bagged lunches

12:00 noon on the second Friday of each month. Our assigned days are: August 11, and September 8.

Watch the Parish News and the PADS sign-up board for more

One important new event for us is our plan to march in the Gurnee Days parade on Sunday August 13. It is a chance to don our Annunciation shirts and appear as walking advertisements for the church in the Gurnee community.

Plans for the parish picnic on Sunday September 3 are fully underway. It is one of the highlights of our year, combining joyful worship with great food and fellowship with games and music outside.

The summer PADS program continues, along with Feed My Starving People and the Starbucks ministry, providing opportunities to give to those less fortunate. And the knitting group, book clubs and lunch bunch gathering continue, giving us chances to enjoy each other's company.

Then we start to look forward to the fall. Look for some exciting changes to the parish hall as part of the capital campaign. We are beginning to think about the cookie walk, our main annual fund raiser, and everyone will be encouraged to participate to make this a success. The boy scouts are planning to host an autumn event, and we are hoping to offer a fascinating event with the bishop. We are a loving, committed faith community and we welcome everyone to find an event or activity that interests them. Come on out and join us!

NOTES FROM THE NURSE





Talk and Needles

An old Cub Scout training acronym is KISMIF(Keep It Simple, Make It Fun) A change to apply to communication says Keep It SECRET, Make It Fail. Dale is convinced that the most effective communication is accomplished with our voice. New subject: Immunizations: If you are going to be around babies and small children, you should

check with your doctor about updating you DPAP shot. (Tetanus, Diphtheria, And Pertussis) Pertussis (Whooping Cough) is becoming more prevalent and is especially dangerous for the small ones. Over 65? Consider checking with your doctor about the pneumonia shots. There are two of them. They provide protection against many pneumonias and other bacterial infections. SKI ALERT THERE MAY BE SNOW IN A FEW MONTHS!!

Let the Little Children Come



Youth Formation Maggie Attyeh

In the summer of 1970, my mom and dad had three kids aged 6, 5 and 3. My mother had her hands full and she supported her children's development and her own sanity by taking us to

the library for story hour every week. At that time there were two libraries in my town. There was the imposing stone structure for the adults and the little converted house down the street with the candy cane striped pillars on the porch for the children. Each week we walked up the steps and entered the dusty house; the hardwood floor creaky and the shelves shoved up against windows. My mom would send us into a bigger room with the other kids and Miss Elaine would read to us while the moms sat together and worked on the craft projects they had brought with them. We sat on carpet squares. Miss Elaine would read a page of the book, turn it around

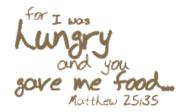
details on how you can volunteer to help with this ministry. Let's do lunch!





For more information or to help, please contact Jane Schaefer at 224-372-7940 or at cs.js@comcast.net.

Feed My Starving Children



If you would like to be a part of this ministry of feeding the hungry please join us. Mark your Calendars ... Here are the Saturday dates,

9:00 am to 11:00 am +August 26, 2017 Last Saturday every Month

God's Peace and Blessings! text/call @ 847-340-3253 Lindalutter@hotmail.com



Important Reminder!!!

and then slowly make are arc with the page in front of us so we could all see the picture. Then we could go and choose some books to take home. My brother, sister and I grew up to be readers and my mom still meets with those same mothers several times a year to craft, but mostly to talk and laugh.

Thirty some years later, Bill and I found ourselves with three kids in four years. As they grew, I made a weekly trip to the Library part of our schedule...for their enrichment and my mental health. But things were a bit different...No longer in a separate structure, the children's section was an important part of the main building. Along with shelves of books, there were puzzles and counting games and lacing cards and soft, child sized chairs and tables to work at. There were cases where kids could share their special collections with anyone who wanted to look. And there was story hour, where the librarians read super sized versions of books so everyone could see the pictures. My kids and I would spend hours there...exploring, thinking, resting, waiting, searching for the

perfect book...It wasn't a playground, but we played...We talked, but we used a quiet voice when we spoke. There were rules there about sharing, where to put things when you finished and listening when an adult shared a story...We all looked forward to Library Day. Libraries have a mission and librarians are smart. Did you know that part of the mission of the American Library Association is to "enhance learning and ensure access to information for all?" ALL. Librarians keep thinking about who "ALL" is and keep working to ensure access for children by making the Library a fun and engaging space for them and their caregivers. They use what we now know about how children learn and they put it into practice so that we can all benefit from generation after generation of informed and literate adults. They know that children can listen better when their hands are busy and that when children can see what is happening, they will become more engaged.

My friends, what if our church was a weekly time of enrichment and respite for parents, grandparents and their very young children? What if it became even more of a place where we "ensured access" to our beautiful faith and liturgy by using what we know about how children learn? I believe an important reason why I and my children love and value reading is because we all had early, active and positive experiences with books and reading. How can we make our worship more active for our little ones? What if we followed the example of the librarians?

Developing a soft space for the very young of our parish is different than painting the Narthex or putting in an air conditioner...It means adjusting our eyes to seeing little ones in front of us instead of turning around to smile at them behind us. It means rearranging pews. It means change. And that's not always easy. I think we can do it and I think we should do it. We have a ons of donated materials and a plan to accommodate the needs of everyone in the parish. Let me know what you think! interest.

From Our Deacon

Linda Lutter

In the Forward Day by Day booklet for the 27th of June there was part of an essay wrien by Cynthia Ozick about Giorgio Perlasca. "Perlasca agreed to be in charge of safe houses that sheltered Jews from deportaon. He is credited with saving thousands of Hungarian Jews. Later, he answered the queson of why he was willing to risk



Please remember as you shop, travel and vacation that we are continuing to collect toiletries for those in need. Any travel or hotel sized soaps, shampoos, etc. are especially needed and appreciated. We are also continuing to collect packages of new underwear of any size and color for the many men, women and children who are homeless and less fortunate. Thank you for your donations and if you have any questions, please see Terry Kline or Sue Whipple

Sunday Night Live



Sunday Night Live will start up again in Sept.



Sunday's at 9:00 am In the education room

Come Join us in September!

Rector's Study Groups

The Rector's Study Groups - met **Wednesday** mornings at **10am** and **Thursday** evenings at **7pm**.

We learned a lot and had great fellowship. Come join us in the fall.

CHECK IT OUT !!!

One of my overall goals as a clergy leader is to equip people for ministry, for exercising their gifts, in the care of all of God's creation.

At the heart of our weekly worship is a meal - the Eucharist. At the heart of our life as a congregation (outside of worship) are many other meals, too (Feast of Annunciation potlucks, Fat Sunday, Wine Tasting Dinner...). We are a church that likes to eat and celebrate!

But there are times when we need to take our meals 'on the road',

4/7



his life: 'I began to feel like a fish in water'."

And I began to think ... this is how I feel when I am doing the work of God ... like I am suppose to be here, I am supposed to be doing this, this is one of the things I was put on earth to do to show God's love ... to be His disciple ... a fish in water. Today I read something from June Singer " In exchange for the promise of security, many people put a barrier between themselves and the

adventures in consciousness that would put a whole new light on their personal lives".

I hope and pray that you all have something in your lives that not only makes you feel like a fish in water ... something that brings you true joy and gives you great strength within ... and if not we break down that barrier that hinders us moving in that direcon. It is not about personal accomplishments, it is about being out there and doing our work for God and feeling unbelievably real and alive! Hoping we all swim into those troubled waters and give them peace ... Thanks be to God!

From Our Rector





I first saw this quote typed out on a bit of paper and pasted to the counter by the cash register of a Kilwin's Fudge Shop in Michigan:

"Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, chocolate in one

hand, champagne in the other, body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming "WOO HOO what a ride!"

(By the way, at the reception after my funeral, there will be chocolate and champagne, and I'd like someone to raise a glass to toast, and read this, please.)

I love the energy expressed in these thoughts - the passion - and the talk of chocolate and champagne certainly caught my eye. But the more I thought about the quote, the more I realized that the values it celebrates are some of the same values the scriptures extol: things like joy and living expansively and taking a chance without knowing for sure what the outcome will be.

In the creation story, in Genesis, God sits back at the end of each creative day, reflects on what is new and declares it "good." (Although I wish the translators had chosen a different word than "good" which is just so tepid. If it were up to me, I would have chosen "awestruck" or "gob-smacked".)

In psalm 104 (verse 126), there's that line about God creating a Leviathan (a giant sea creature) just for fun: "See the ships sailing along, and the Leviathan, which you made to play in the sea." In Luke 12, Jesus preaches about living in the here and now, setting aside worry and fear; he points to a field of flowers, and reminds his listeners that they exist not for a productive purpose (they neither toil nor spin), but for beauty.

Too often, faith and religion and scripture are perceived as (presented as?) dour and somber. While I don't dispute that there are times and circumstances for faith and religion to take on serious issues (standing up for human rights, justice for marginalized people), I think we have the potential to miss other aspects of God

outside of our building. On occasion, we have parishioners who need meals provided for them after surgery, after having a baby, etc.

When I started at Annunciation, I know that this kind of meals ministry was going on, but it was done informally, and was somewhat dependent on how connected was the person who needed the meals (i.e. the more people they knew, the more efficient was the communication about their needs, and the more likely it was that they would get meals provided to them). Additionally, the process, being informal, meant that there was a lot of going back and forth between meal providers and the person needing the meals (taking up time/energy that might otherwise have been spent on healing, baby care); there was the potential for duplication of meals (everyone bringing a lasagna); and, frequently, the meal recipient received more food than they could use or store.

Three+ years ago, I set up the Food Tidings meal ministry app, an online tool for managing this process. I asked Samantha Robison to act as the coordinator. We asked people to be meal providers, and added their names to Food Tidings. When I find out that someone has had a baby, suffered an injury, or gone through surgery, I ask if receiving meals would be helpful for them. Samantha then gets in touch with that person, identifies their specific needs (frequency of meals, likes and dislikes, quantities), then inputs that information into Food Tidings which sends out a notice to meal providers, asking them to sign up for a meal. A meal provider can pick the date that works best for them, and tells the system the meal they're going to bring; other meal providers can see what other people have already signed up to bring - so, no more multiple pans of lasagna!

The impact of this program is broad: meal recipients get what they need, when they need it. They have very real evidence that their fellow parishioners are thinking about them, supporting them. Also, their needs get met regardless of whether they know lots of people in the congregation or only a few. Meal providers can feel good knowing that they're providing exactly what's needed. People who may not have known each other before get connected. It's also a great "low risk" ministry, a way to begin to get newcomers involved, as there's no long-term commitment you participate when you can. And, in terms of the overall goal of helping people recognize and exercise their gifts for ministry, individuals who may not have been convinced they have anything to offer have a very tangible means of

and God's creation, like joy and delight and humor. I wish that the gospel authors had told stories of Jesus telling jokes or of the disciples teasing one another, pulling silly pranks. I'd like to hear about the times all of these friends got laughing so hard that they snorted goat's milk out through their noses.

In these waning weeks of summer, in this season of refreshment and relaxation, may we find time - make time - to look for God's joy, God's delight, and all that surrounds us that God has generously provided to us just for our good pleasure.

WOO HOO, what a ride!!

seeing that what they do makes a difference.

BSA 627



Did you see our newly wrapped trailers?

Understanding Our Impact

[From an article from Virginia Tech]



Impact reporting is important because it Helps us reflect on and improve our work.

Demonstrates the difference we make in people's lives, communities, and the environment.

Improves visibility of programs (local, state, national). Generates support.

Is a repository of results for speeches and other communication. Helps us focus on issues, initiatives, and program themes. Builds greater understanding of our programs by the public. Illustrates our accountability.

[From an article on LinkedIn] Remember the impact statement equation:

What + How + Why = Impact.

Look for the article under 'Check It Out' and read about the impact we are having on

See you on Sundays!

Annunciation of Our Lady Episcopal Church, 5725 Stearns School Road, Gurnee, IL 60031

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