

St. Philip's Weekly Newsletter for 10-14-21

Greetings dear friend.

I hope this week's note finds you healthy, happy and enjoying Fall. We're about to see some really beautiful colors, I think. I plan to make my way to Morton Arboretum and do some walking.

I hope you plan to join us Saturday for Oktoberfest at church. You know, I have yet to attend a party at St. Philip's that wasn't fun from start to finish. I'm so grateful to all those involved in making this a wonderful success. As our principal fundraiser heading into 2022, please pray for a generous outpouring of support -- and not just financially speaking. We need volunteers for various ministries and regular prayer support is always needed.

Please look over the calendar of events in the eblast that contains this newsletter. We are one busy church and getting busier! How exciting. I so appreciate each and every one of you for all you do to make worship and life together so very special. May God bless you this week and fill you with his joy!

REMINDER: We really do very well with this but it never hurts to be reminded to be certain the church doors are fully closed and locked behind you when you are the last person to leave the building. The Schubert Street door was open about three inches on Monday when the book club folks showed up. Be sure to pull the door completely shut and then tug on it a time or two to make sure it is locked. Steps are being taken to make the door easier to close all the way. Thank you!

Diocesan Convention

The 184th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago will take place Saturday, November 20 from 9 am to 3 pm on Zoom. The event is free and everyone is welcome to participate.

Convention is the annual business meeting of the diocese, during which we elect leaders, consider resolutions and hear reports from across the diocese and the wider church.

All convention participants are required to register individually, including canonically resident clergy, lay delegates, licensed clergy, youth delegates and general attendees. Please register online in **English** or **Spanish** by October 15.

Delegates must also be certified by their congregations or campus ministries in order to have voice and vote at convention. Certification forms can be found on the **convention webpage** and are due to the Secretary of Convention by October 15.

Notes of Concern and Praise

- Your prayers for Deacon Dan have made a tremendous difference in his recovery. It's not an exaggeration to say we almost lost him at one point. Not only has Dan made it through the worst, he has gained strength with each new day of rehab. Please consider visiting Dan in the afternoon. He is at The Citadel of Wilmette on Poplar Street. While he has workout sessions in the morning, afternoons can get a little lonely and I know seeing some friendly faces from church would lift his spirits. Dan has asked me to thank you for your many cards, calls, emails and prayers. He'll be at the Citadel through October and the path to full recovery is a long one - but he's doing really well. Give God thanks for this wonderful news.

UPDATE ON DEACON DATE AS OF 10/14/2021: I spoke with Dan just yesterday afternoon and he felt great. He has been making wonderful

progress. This morning however, he was taken to the ER with kidney problems. According to Karen, "his kidneys are not functioning as they should and his heart rate is elevated."

- We have more to be thankful for: our beloved Music Director, Michelle Webb, will be back with us November 7th. Doctors have cleared her to resume playing! What a blessing. Michelle is very grateful for your prayers and cards. She does request your prayer for her eyesight. She was to undergo an important test and exam today with the eye doctor and should know more soon. Pray that the news is good.
- Michelle also requests your prayers for a close friend of hers. Her name is Tracy Grummer. Tracy has stage 4 colon cancer. Please pray for a powerful work of healing in Tracy's life. And pray that God would lift Michelle's spirit as she seeks to be there for her dear friend.
 - Give thanks this coming week for the birthdays of Keith Kampert, Jack Notzen and Sophie Obara! May God bless each of you with his love and grace.
- Continue to pray for peace: between nations, people groups and individuals. Pray for an end to violence and hate. Pray that many come to faith in Christ and discover his heart for the needs and concerns of others.
- Give thanks for our wonderful altar guild - including present and past members who have given so much love and time to our church.
- Let's also give thanks for the weekend celebration of the union of Kelly (Wiggen) Kutz and her new hubby, Rob. They were married a year ago but the big part was held on Saturday. We congratulate the happy couple as well as Bonnie and Andy.
- And please pray for those who are unemployed, underemployed or looking for more fulfilling work. May God guide them, give them wisdom and help them to find a job where they can truly flourish.
- Give thanks that Kim McDonald is scheduled to come home from rehab soon. Pray that she continues to improve. We love you, Kim!

- And Andy Kistner requests your prayers for a close family friend named Chris Trotti, who has been dealing with a series of health issues.
- And as ever - please remember those on our parish prayer list who are dealing with ongoing health and other concerns. We pray for Bill Peterson; Janie and Ken Jenssen; Roberta Butler; Diane Knowles; Linda Purcell; Andreas Kistner; Marv and Jill Hill; Gail Santrach; Joe and Toni Saladino; Christina Guzman; Molly and her parents - David & Laura; Levi Tsu and his family; Lillian Conway; Candace Horner; Peggy and Don; Marge; Pam Durkin; Bishop-Elect Paula Clark and her husband, Andrew McClean.

In the larger Church, please pray for...

- The Office of Indigenous Ministries of the Episcopal Church.
- St. Simon's Episcopal Church in Arlington Heights; and the Reverends Jenny Hulen, rector, and Diane Shields, pastoral care coordinator.
- Iglesia Corona de Amor Evangelical Church on Quentin Road. Pray for the congregation and for Pastor Carlos Guadagno.

This Week's Quiz...

...is about our United States Navy. (October 13th is the birthday of the USN. And I promise to do similar quizzes for the other branches when the time comes. I realize the big Army-Navy game is still to be played!)

1. The US Congress has bestowed the title of "Admiral of the Navy" on just one person. Who was it? (George Dewey; Chester Nimitz; Ernest King; William Crowe; David Farragut)
2. The first truly American Navy was commissioned to fight the British by which of the original colonies? (New York; South Carolina; Massachusetts; Rhode Island; Maryland)

3. What was the name of the first US Navy submarine? (USS Decatur; USS Turtle; USS Swarm; USS Alligator; USS John Paul Jones)
4. The official motto of the US Marine Corp is “Semper Fidelis”, which means “Always faithful.” What is the official motto of the US Navy? (Sic Semper Tyrannis; Semper Fortis; We Defend; Semper Paratus; Pax per Fortitudinem)
5. Which of these celebrities did NOT serve in the United States Navy? (Actor Humphrey Bogart; Game Show Host Bob Barker; NBA Hall of Famer David Robinson; LPGA great Nancy Lopez; Rap Star MC Hammer)

Answers to the quiz are at the end of the newsletter.

This Day in Christian History...

- On October 10th, 1530: Wulliam Tracie [William Tracy] dates his will “The x daye of October, in the xxii yere of the rayne of King Henry the VIII.” In it he rejects masses for the dead, declaring that salvation is by faith in Christ alone. Following Tracie’s death, his statement becomes known to Archbishop of Canterbury William Warham, who declares Tracie a heretic and orders Thomas Parker, Chancelor of Worcester, to exhume the body. Parker will burn it publicly.
- On October 11th, 1962: The first session of the Second Vatican Council opens. It will transform the way the Catholic church relates to other Christian denominations.
- On October 12th, 1892: theologian and church historian Philip Schaff completes his multi-volume History of the Christian Church. Schaff’s work was delayed by a stroke but he eventually completed it.
- On October 13th, 1908: The Church of the Nazarene organizes in Texas.
- On October 14th, 1656: Massachusetts enacts a law prohibiting “Quakerism.” The laws decree fines and mutilations for various offenses.
- On October 15th, 1932: Gladys Aylward sails from Liverpool bent on bringing the gospel to China despite being told by mission boards she

is not fit for the task. Her heroic adventures and rescue of over one hundred orphans will inspire the film *Inn of the Sixth Happiness*. Aylward is credited with helping to end the cruel practice of foot-binding in China.

- On October 16th, 1555: English reformers Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer are burned at the stake under the government of Queen Mary.

With thanks to the Christian History Institute

News Briefs...

(CASPER, WY.) -- As churches across the United States consider ways to welcome Afghan families who fled the Taliban in their home country, Episcopalians in Wyoming are making headlines for countering the state's reputation as the only in the nation to never have a formal refugee resettlement program.

The vestry at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Casper voted unanimously on Sept. 20 to begin researching the process for sponsoring an Afghan family. The church formed a committee to work with Episcopal Migration Ministries on a plan to provide for such needs as housing and job placements, as well as to offer fellowship and other support to these potential new neighbors.

"Most Afghan families want to go where there's an Afghan community. There's no community here," said the Rev. Jim Shumard, rector at St. Mark's, but he told Episcopal News Service he and his congregation hope to change that. "We pray other local churches will sponsor other families so that we can build community together." Last week, St. Mark's efforts were profiled in a Washington Post article, which highlighted residents' past reluctance to welcome refugees to this strongly conservative and mostly white state. In 2020, 70% of Wyoming voted in favor of President Donald Trump, who made opposition to legal and illegal immigration a cornerstone of his campaigns and who, as president, reduced the number of refugees allowed into the United States to a historic low of 15,000. On Friday, Oct. 8, President Joe Biden raised the refugee ceiling to 125,000 for the 2022

fiscal year. All will need to find places to live, and as they settle in new communities, many will receive help from one of the nine agencies that are part of the federal refugee resettlement program, including Episcopal Migration Ministries, or EMM.

Shumard's first experience with welcoming refugees dates back more than two decades to when he was serving at Grace Episcopal Church in Gainesville, Georgia. That congregation helped settle and support families from Bosnia. Shumard is confident that families from Afghanistan will feel just as welcomed by Wyoming residents. "I think there are enough voices that want it to happen, that it's a great opportunity," he said. For Christians, that spirit of welcome is biblical, he said, citing Jesus' command in Matthew 25 to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and welcome the stranger. "It's not only what Jesus would do," he added. "It's also a way to honor the work that our soldiers did. ... They said they couldn't do their job without these [Afghan] interpreters and allies. So few of us fought in Afghanistan or worked in Afghanistan. I feel this is a way for us to do our part." *Episcopal News Service*

(CHICAGO) -- The Chicago CROP Hunger Walk will be held on October 17 at 1 pm, with a 5K walk and a shorter, mile-long option beginning and ending at First Immanuel Lutheran Church (1124 S. Ashland). All COVID-19 health precautions, including wearing face masks, will be followed. Teams that are more comfortable walking in smaller groups can pick their own date and time and participate in an online post-walk celebration on October 19. Learn more and register. Outside of Chicago, many CROP Hunger Walks are planned for fall and next spring, from Kewanee to Gurnee to Rockford. Congregations that don't have access to a local CROP Hunger Walk can still participate in the National CROP Hunger Walk on World Food Day, October 16, by walking near home. Many congregational hunger-related ministries receive funds from their local CROP Walk committee, and the diocesan Hunger Committee is one entity that receives and disburses Chicago's local CROP Walk funds to congregational programs in Chicago. For more information, please contact

Nicole Schall-Plotner or the Rev. Gary Cox by email or phone at 773-434-9783.

(VATICAN CITY) -- Pope Francis on Wednesday approved the crediting of what was described as the miraculous healing of a child to the intercession of John Paul I. As the Associated Press reports, the move advances the cause for sainthood for a man who died 33 days after being elected pontiff in 1978. His signing off on the 2011 recovery in Argentina of a child makes possible John Paul I's beatification, whose date will be later established by Francis. Cardinal Albino Luciani was elected on Aug. 26, 1978 and was found dead in his bed in his Vatican City apartment on Sept. 28 of that year. The Vatican said that the healing, of a 11-year-old girl, took place in Buenos Aires, the birthplace of the current pope, Francis. She had been afflicted with acute brain inflammation, septic shock and other grave medical problems and was deemed on the verge of death by doctors. A pastor of the parish associated with the hospital caring for her took "the initiative to invoke Pope Luciani," the Vatican said. The unexpected death of the 65-year-old John Paul I, so early into his papacy, set off speculation that he had been murdered. In 2017, Pope Francis approved an earlier step in the church's sainthood process, a declaration that John Paul I had led a life of "heroic virtue." After beatification take place, a second miracle must take place that will pass the Vatican's muster if John Paul I is to be declared a saint. Just before the attribution of "heroic virtue" to John Paul I, a journalist involved in the beatification cause and who had access to the late pope's medical files, concluded in a book that he had died of a heart attack. Dubbed the "smiling pope" for his cheerful demeanor in public, John Paul I was succeeded by the first non-Italian pontiff in centuries — Polish Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, who called himself John Paul II and went on to lead one of the church's longest papacies. *Associated Press*

(WILLIAMSBURG, VA.) -- Archaeologists believe they have discovered the foundation of the original building of the First Baptist Church in Williamsburg, Virginia, one of the nation's oldest Black churches. The announcement, shared first with descendants of First Baptist Church members, was officially made on Thursday by Colonial Williamsburg

Foundation, which runs the well-known outdoor living museum and historic district in Williamsburg. The story is printed in the newest edition of *Christianity Today* magazine. “The early history of our congregation, beginning with enslaved and free Blacks gathering outdoors in secret in 1776, has always been a part of who we are as a community,” said the Rev. Reginald F. Davis, pastor of First Baptist Church, in a statement. “To see it unearthed—to see the actual bricks of that original foundation and the outline of the place our ancestors worshipped—brings that history to life and makes that piece of our identity tangible.” The discovery of the first permanent structure of the church—which is set to celebrate its 245th anniversary on the weekend of October 9-10—comes after a year of excavation at the site. Archaeologists located a 16 X 20-foot brick foundation atop a layer of soil that has been dated to the early 1800s. It sits beside brick paving under which was found an 1817 coin. Tax records have indicated that the congregation was worshipping on the site by 1818 in a building called the Baptist Meeting House, which was likely the congregation’s first permanent home. Jack Gary, Colonial Williamsburg’s director of archaeology, said he considers these finds to be just the start of continuing research. “We always hoped this is what we’d find,” he said in a statement. “Now we can move forward to better understand the footprint of the building. Is it the only structure on the site? What else was around it? What did it look like? How was it being used?” During their search, which started in September 2020, archaeologists also have found evidence of at least 25 human burials at the location. What remained of the church’s original structure had been covered up by the foundation of a brick church built in 1856 after the first structure was felled by a tornado. Later, it was paved over in the construction of a parking lot. Negotiations between the church and Colonial Williamsburg have brought the church’s history into the open in the last five years. First Baptist relocated to Scotland Street in 1956. The excavation work at the former site near Nassau and Francis streets will continue as archaeologists seek to learn more about the first permanent structure, pinpoint burial sites and learn more about the spiritual practices of the early worshipers. The church was started in 1776 by enslaved and free Blacks, defying laws forbidding African Americans to congregate. They started in a brush arbor—a clearing in the woods

surrounded by posts and covered with branches—where they met secretly to pray and sing on a Williamsburg plantation. They relocated to a rural area outside Williamsburg before moving to the site where the recent discoveries were made. *Christianity Today*

That's it for another week. I hope you enjoy the newsletter. Please let me know if anything strikes you as particularly interested. And without further ado, here are the answers to this week's quiz:

1. George Dewey, the hero of Manila Bay, is the only person ever named "Admiral of the Navy" by the US Congress.
2. Rhode Island established the first American Navy in 1775.
3. The USS Alligator was the first known US Navy submarine, commissioned in 1862. Foul weather forced her to be set adrift off Cape Hatteras in 1863. The Alligator was the first Navy sub, but not the first American submarine. Believe it or not, a submersible vessel called *The Turtle* was used in combat in 1775. The boat, shaped like a giant acorn, held one crewman. Attempts to engage British vessels in NY Harbor were unsuccessful.
4. "Semper Fortis" is the official Navy motto. It means "Always Courageous".
5. LPGA golf great Nancy Lopez never served in the US Navy. All the other celebrities on the list are veterans of the Navy.

Hope you enjoyed the quiz!