

ST.BARNABAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE DEAF

THE MESSENGER

April — August 2009

A congregation of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington



On Palm Sunday, April 5, All Soul's Church of the Deaf from Philadelphia joined St. Barnabas' at worship in the chapel during a weekend Cherry Blossom tour of D.C.

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Help us celebrate St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church of the Deaf 150th Anniversary!

luncheon and program

Sunday, August 30

10:00 Holy Eucharist II

12:30 Catered luncheon

Exhibits

History presentation

Gallaudet and Syle Drama

Memory Time - share stories!

RSVP by August 17 to Ginny Lindsay: ginyngem@tmail.com and jigilindsay@aol.com

THE PASTOR'S CORNER:

Dear Members and Friends,



OUR FINAL
TRUST MUST
REST IN GOD,
OUR CREATOR
AND SUSTAINER.
WHO DO YOU
TRUST?

Summer has arrived at last! I had begun to think that it would never come. Although I don't like "HOT" weather I do like some warm air. Spring seemed to be just a milder continuation of Winter this year. Maybe there is something to this "Global Warming" talk after all.

As I think about this idea it reminds me, again, about how finite and helpless we humans are. There are many things over which we have some control but the weather is not one of them. So, what do we do?

I am reminded of the Gospel a few Sundays ago with the story of Jesus and the disciples crossing the Sea of Galilee in a boat. Suddenly a storm blew up. Waves were high enough they were filling the boat with water and they were about to sink! They were frightened, as we would have been, and they went to wake Jesus who was peacefully sleeping in the stern of the boat. When he awoke they begged him to "do something lest they drown". Jesus simply spoke to the wind and the waves, "Peace be still!" and the storm stopped as suddenly as it had begun. Then he chided them a bit. "Oh ye of little faith!"

We talk a lot about trusting in Jesus. In whom was Jesus trusting? Our final trust must rest in God, our Creator and Sustainer. Who do you trust?

We seem to be in one crisis after another these days. How do we handle them? Do we calmly say to God, "Your will be done" or do we fret and worry and wonder? Give this some thought! Ask yourselves, "Who do I trust?"

Have a wonderful summer!
Blessings and Prayers to all,

Barbara+

Kiombo Nsumbu's Letter to St. Barnabas'

April 23, 2009

Dear members of St. Barnabas,

I would like to take this opportunity to, once again, thank you for all the support that you and other Deaf Episcopal churches have contributed to my education. Without this support, I might otherwise not be able to get where I am today. I have worked hard to attain this goal. Hard work is being the best one can succeed in every step of life. Yes, it rings true to each individual including myself. While working hard, I was able to successfully achieve another high education level and will graduate with an MA Degree in International Development from Gallaudet University on Friday, May 15, 2009. This is a milestone of excellence in my life.

However, it is not yet over. There is still work that needs to be done ahead of me. I have a project to implement when I return to Congo in the next two years. The goal of this project is to improve the quality of education of Deaf children aged 4-6 years old. The children will learn Congolese Sign Language for two years before they enter first grade. In this way, they will be able to communicate with their teachers and better understand of what is taught in classrooms. Improving the quality of education of Deaf children is the key to success in the future. This project will not necessarily be education but it will include training teachers of Deaf children, Deaf leaders and working with parents of the Deaf, associations and the Congolese government in support of the rights and well-being of the Deaf population at large.

Once again, I thank you all and certainly appreciate your support and interest in being part of my endeavors. Your support means a lot to me. Upon returning to Congo, providing access to language and communication to Deaf children will be my top priority because they need these basic tools necessary to succeed in school. I believe this will happen and make a big difference in the lives of Deaf children.

Best regards,

Kiombo

"Peace is a part of compromise. Nothing can be done to win peace successfully when attempting to force someone to cave in to your will"

-alphonsekabu-

Burial Office read for the Rev. Canon Dr. William M. Lange, Jr. 1909-2009

(reprinted from ECD "Deaf Episcopalian" newsletter, with permission)

I want to write a brief report of my experience attending the funeral service of Fr. Lange this past Tuesday June 30, 2009 held at St. David's Episcopal Church in DeWitt, NY. A beautiful and simply styled little church that seemed "just right" for remembering him.

The service was planned by the Rev. Peter A. Williams, Vicar of Ephphatha and the Rev. Virginia Nagel, former vicar of Ephphatha Parish of the Deaf. I attended to bring greetings and prayers from the ECD. I was asked to lead Prayers of the People and also to assist as a chalice for Holy Communion. There were other priests from the Diocese of CNY. The Right Reverend William Love, Bishop of the Diocese of Albany, was in attendance. He also served in distributing the bread and spoke the Commendation Prayers.

I learned that Fr. Lange was ordained in the Diocese of Albany and had never moved canonically to the Diocese of CNY even though he spent most of his ministry life in that diocese. So, it was fitting that Bishop Love be there.

The service was beautiful! There were 119 persons who received Holy Communion and I think there must have been some who did not receive as the church was filled to overflowing. Sufficient interpreters were there to provide communication for all, sign and voice. There was to be a private burial service later.

Following the service a beautiful catered lunch was served which provided for a time for fellowship and sharing memories. Many shared with me of how Fr. Lange had baptized them, married them and then baptized their children. I had only met Fr. Lange one time. That was at my first ECD Convention in Buffalo, NY in 1993. I mainly remember from that how very loved he obviously was!

I had met his wife Vera at that same convention. What a lovely and sweet woman. I had a chance to renew our acquaintance. She is as gracious today as she was sixteen years ago. Please keep Vera and the family in your prayers.

Barbara+

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News from St. Barnabas (reprinted from ECD "Deaf Episcopalian" newsletter, with permission)

Ecumenical Deaf Children's Group

Our group continues to grow and flourish! We are on vacation during the summer but plans are to resume our Sunday afternoon classes in September or October 2009.

This is one of the most rewarding activities St. Barnabas' does.

Deaf Ministry in Jordan

The vicar of St. Barnabas' is scheduled to join a group from the Diocese of Washington in October 2009 for a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and surrounding area. St.

Barnabas' will share the expense with the diocese for this trip. The goal is for the Rev. Barbara Allen, vicar of St. Barnabas' and President of the ECD, to visit the Salt School for the Deaf in Amman Jordan to learn about their educational process for Deaf children. The hope is to establish a relationship between the Salt School and Gallaudet University.

Visit with Dr. Mary Malzkuhn

The vicar traveled to Chesapeake, VA to visit our friend and long time ECD member **Dr. Mary Malzkuhn. She traveled with a mutual interpreter friend of Mary's. We had a wonderful reunion as we had not seen each other for several months. Mary is living in a lovely gated community. She looks wonderful! She is driving again and many of her previous medical problems are under control. Unfortunately, there is no Episcopal church, interpreted or signed near her and she does miss that. However, she is happy!**

Kiombo Alphonse Nsumbu Graduates

The vicar attended the May 15, 2009 graduation of our own Kiombo Nsumbu who **graduated with a Master's Degree from Gallaudet University on that date. This was a long awaited honor. Kiombo has worked very hard and overcome numerous barriers in his pursuit of a degree in Deaf Education and International Studies. His goal, as I reported in the Winter issue of the DE, is to return to the Congo and open a school for Deaf children. At present he is looking for employment to support himself here while he secures finances for his project.**

Pentecost and Lutherans and Episcopalians

St. Barnabas' has a good relationship with Christ Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Silver Spring, MD even though this is a Missouri Synod church. Missouri Synod is a very conservative Lutheran group and we Episcopalians do not have with them the same interaction as with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). However, the pastor of Christ Church and the vicar of St. B's work together as chaplains at Gallaudet University and have a good working relationship. On Pentecost we had an exciting joint service at St. B's with the Rev. Dr. Roger A. Pickering joining us to celebrate Eucharist. The vicar preached. Most of the members of Christ Church could not be there for the service but they joined us for a delicious potluck "picnic" lunch afterwards. There were about thirty-five people there. Many commented on the fun this was and that we should do it more often.

THE VICAR OF ST. BARNABAS' IS SCHEDULED TO JOIN A GROUP FROM THE DIOCESE OF WASHINGTON IN OCTOBER 2009 FOR A PILGRIMAGE TO JERUSALEM AND SURROUNDING AREA

PALM SUNDAY SNAPSHOTS



Members of All soul's Church in the chapel before the Palm Sunday service.



Lay Eucharistic Minister Tom Hattaway hands out palm fronds to Beth Hill and Steve Holst

PALM SUNDAY SNAPSHOTS



Tom Hattaway and guests from All Souls chatting in the lounge during coffee hour during which a buffet lunch was served.

All Souls' Church for the Deaf from Philadelphia, PA visits St. Barnabas'

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On April 5, 2009 we welcomed All Souls' Church for the Deaf to St. Barnabas' for worship and fellowship.

A group from All Souls' came down by van from Philadelphia on Saturday April 4th to sight-see here in Washington, D.C. Although they encountered some problems I think, all in all, they enjoyed their trip. It was exciting at one point because as they were waiting to tour the White House there was a "bomb scare". Someone had found an unidentified package near the area and all activity was suspended while security investigated. It was a very hot day and the group was forced to sit in their van and wait. Not a happy time! The White House tour had to be cancelled. However, those who wished to were able to tour the Library of Congress which they said they enjoyed.

On Sunday April 5th they joined us at St. B's for our Holy Eucharist Celebration and a pot-luck lunch afterwards. St. Mary's Chapel, where our services are held, was full. We had a wonderful time together! The lunch was delicious! We had time to renew acquaintances and meet new people. A good time was had by all!

ST.BARNABAS' EPISCOPAL
CHURCH OF THE DEAF

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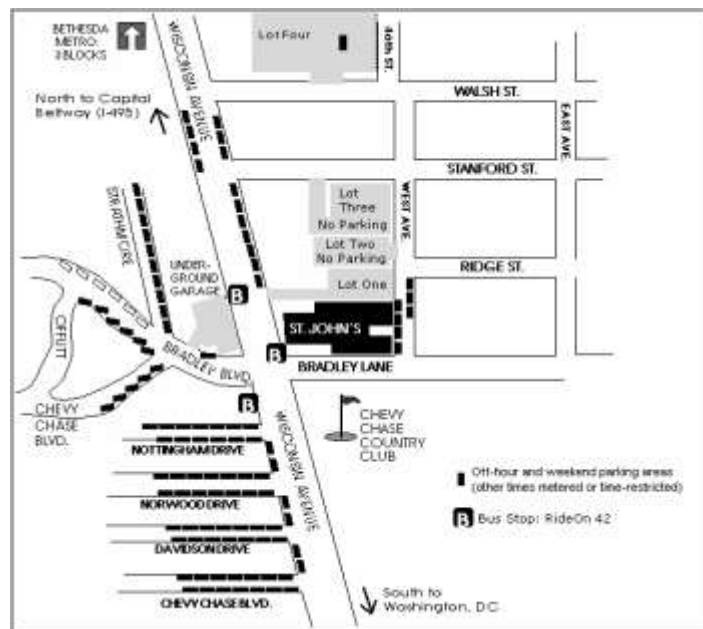
Senior Warden: Tom Hattaway,
HattawayT@sprint.blackberry.net

Unsolicited newsletter items/articles are welcome,
especially your digital photos related to church and

ON THE WEB AT
STBARNABASDEAF.EDOW.ORG

WEEKLY 10 AM HOLY EUCHARIST
SERVICE
WITH HEALING SERVICE 3RD
SUNDAYS
ST. MARY'S CHAPEL AT
ST. JOHN'S, NORWOOD
6701 WISCONSIN AVENUE AT
BRADLEY LANE, CHEVY CHASE, MD.
20815

GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY MINISTRY:
ELY CENTER ROOM 114
DURING ACADEMIC YEAR, HOLY
EUCHARIST CELEBRATED THE SECOND
SUN. OF EACH MONTH AT 2:00 PM
IN THE CHAPEL OF THE STUDENT
UNION BUILDING



St. Barnabas' meets in St. Mary's Chapel at St. John's Norwood Church at the corner of Wisconsin Ave and Bradley Lane