

THE MESSENGER

September 2006

A congregation of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington



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Jim Lindsay and **Steve Holst** performed the historic roles of the Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, "Apostle to the Deaf" and first deaf priest the Rev. Henry Winter Syle; see p 4-5

Installation of the 26th Presiding Bishop of the ECUSA

St. Barnabas' is excited and pleased that the National Church is providing interpreters and reserved seating for the installation of the Right Reverend **Katharine Jefferts Schori** as the 26th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church USA at Washington National Cathedral on Saturday November 4,

2006. We received ten tickets for the installation and they were all gone within the week.

Jefferts Shori will be formally seated in a service in the National Cathedral on Sunday November 5. That service will also be ASL-interpreted and no tickets are required.

Cathedral Lectures Will Be ASL Interpreted

The Cathedral College is pleased to announce that all of their Nave Lectures this season will be interpreted in American Sign Language for the Deaf Community. Reserved seating will be available for those requiring this service. If you have any questions, please call (202) 537-2221 using MD Relay or VP Relay.

See details page 6

Diocesan Regional Assembly

2 p.m. to 6 p.m Oct. 28 at St. Luke's, Bethesda
There will be interpreters; vestry members are welcome to participate and all are welcome to observe.

Zimmerman anniversary

Shirley and Byron Zimmerman celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on June 27. The party was held on June 3rd with renewal of vows, dinner and dancing. Congratulations to Byron and Shirley! Photo courtesy of Shirley Zimmerman, thanks Shirley!

September and October birthdays:

9/5 Nancy, 9/6 Christina, 9/8 Mary, 9/14 Michael, 9/21 Derek, 10/11 Ron, 10/19 Beth. Happy Birthday and If we missed your birthday and you would like it listed please contact Mae Mullen.

Ed Knight recently read **“The Language of God, a Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief”** by Dr. Francis S. Collins, director of the Human Genome Project. Dr. Collins says “It is time to call a truce in the escalating war between science and spirit”. Dr. Collins sees no conflict between faith and the theory of evolution. He describes his faith journey from atheist to believer, the influence of C.S. Lewis’ “Mere Christianity” on his thinking, and the medical patients whose faith in the face of grave illness touched his heart.

Elaine Laird has printed worship rotas for August and September which are proving to be helpful in coordinating the scheduling of lay Eucharistic ministers, lay readers, altar guild, lay prayer leaders, oblation bearers and ushers. Elaine has also updated the flyers and posters for the campus ministry at Gallaudet University. Elaine is working on new visitors cards and also on a new St. B's brochure.



Ed Knight has updated our website <http://stbarnabasdeaf.edow.org/> with streaming video (hosted by Google Video) of two of our recent services — a Holy Eucharist service on the Feast Day of Gallaudet and Syle led by Mother Barbara, featuring **Jim Lindsay** and **Steve Holst** giving speeches in the roles of the Rev. Thomas Gallaudet and the Rev. Henry Winter Syle (see pages 4 & 5 for the transcripts), and a Morning Prayer service in July led by **Tom Hattaway**. In the future we will be adding more streaming video of special events and services.

Robin DeBlosi from Cathedral College (at National Cathedral) has provided us with a poster and email flyer to publicize the availability of interpreters at all of the Cathedral's Fall 2006 lectures in the Cathedral Nave.

October Coffee Hour Study For the five Sundays in October we will study: **Three Faiths - One God**. The basis for this study is the PBS documentary of the same name. During Coffee Hour at St. Barnabas' our own **Dr. Mary Malzkuhn** will guide this study. There is a CC video which will be used to augment Dr. Malzkuhn's teachings. Each session will last approximately an hour. Join us for coffee and something to assuage your hunger: physical, mental and spiritual.

Metro Washington Association of the Deaf-blind (MWADB) Events on September 30

Volunteer SSPs (Support Service Providers) needed! To volunteer, contact Bruce Denhart, SSP Coordinator, email address: bdenh75955@aol.com. For more questions about Recreation, Social and Culture or Fund raiser project events, please contact SAF at email address: stevenfrank@juno.com

Sat. Sept. 30th: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Swap Meet (Flea Market); fund raiser. Location at King Farm Park, Rockville, MD. Bring your stuff that you do not want items and sell them to help and support MWADB!

Sat. Sept. 30th: 4:00 to 10:00 pm Strategic planning workshop and Bagel dinner. Location: Flex A and B, Student Union Building, Gallaudet University, 800 Florida Ave. NE, Washington, D.C.

THE PASTOR'S CORNER:

This past Sunday the Gospel focused on Jesus' thoughts on "tradition". Webster's says that the word "tradition" means: an established custom; historic practice. One might also term tradition as a "ritual".

We have many "rituals" or "traditions" in the Episcopal Church. Our liturgy is tradition. The way we plan our services, the order of the lessons, the prayers, the Eucharistic Celebration all are "traditions". Many would be surprised to learn that we actually pattern our service ritual from the Jewish synagogue and temple services. We follow much the same order as those ancient rituals.

Now, Jesus was talking about one of those Jewish rituals, the washing of the hands before eating. Have you noticed that many priests in our churches "wash" their hands before beginning the Eucharistic Celebration or Holy Communion? The deacon or acolyte will bring a carafe of water with a bowl and a towel to the priest. The priest will hold his/her hands over the bowl and the deacon will pour some of the water over the priest's hands. The priest washes and then dries his/her hands with a clean towel before beginning the Eucharist.

Jesus used this ritual and the questions of the Pharisees and scribes to emphasize that outside dirt is not what is important. It is the "dirt" inside our hearts that is important. Our sins and wrongdoings begin in our hearts and minds. We may be influenced by those evil things around us but it is in our hearts and minds that we decide if we will accept and practice those things or reject them as evil. The choice is ours. God has given us the ability to discern right from wrong, good from evil. God has also given us guidelines by which to discern. Remember that Jesus said, "It is not what goes into a person that dishonors that person, but what comes out."

God bless,

Barbara+



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The Rev. Thomas Gallaudet (performed by Jim Lindsay)



Good morning!

I am the Rev. Thomas Gallaudet. Do not confuse me with my father, Dr. Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet. My father established the first school for the deaf in West Hartford, CT in 1817. It was called the Hartford Asylum because in that day many thought that deaf people were mentally deficient. It is now called the American School for the Deaf.

My mother was deaf, my father hearing. They were strong members of the Congregational Church in West Hartford. My father had attended Trinity College with the goal of becoming a Congregational minister. However, when he met little Alice Cogswell, a neighbor child who was deaf, his life changed completely and he became an educator of deaf people instead.

I was raised in the Congregational Church but could not feel at peace with that theology. My father wanted very much for me to be a teacher. He persuaded me to accept a position as a professor at the New York Institution for Deaf-Mutes in New York City. However, I engaged in theological studies in private and felt called to become a priest in the Episcopal tradition. I had been consecrated as an infant in the Congregational Church to serve God but as I studied to become ordained I became concerned about my baptism. So, as soon as I was settled in New York I requested and received Holy Baptism by the Rev. Dr. Forbes of St. Luke's Church.

I was ordained a deacon in the Episcopal Church on June 16, 1850 in St. Stephen's Church, New York City. A year later I was ordained to the priesthood. My life was life was rich and full. I married a deaf woman, Elizabeth A. Budd in 1845. We were the proud parents of seven children. I have been called "The Apostle to the Deaf" because I made my life's goal to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to deaf persons in everyplace I traveled.

In 1852 I founded St. Ann's Church for the Deaf in New York City. This was the first church established to serve deaf people in their language and culture in the United States. St. Ann's still serves the deaf population of New York today.

I founded many other ministries with deaf persons. One that is very important to you is right here in Chevy Chase. I started St. Barnabas' back in 1859 when I came to Washington and taught a Bible study in a hearing church. There were six deaf people that day. You were not called St. Barnabas' then. That group of six grew into the congregation that meets here every Sunday. That group became St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church of the Deaf.

I am proud of what you have done. Keep up the good work.

God bless you.

The Rev Henry Winter Syle (performed by Steve Holst)

Good morning to you all!

I am the Rev. Henry Winter Syle, the first deaf person ever ordained to the ministry of any Church. My father was a Church of England missionary in China. I was born in Shanghai, China on November 9, 1846. When I was four years old I was sent to the United States to live with an aunt in Alexandria, VA. When I was about five or six years old, I don't remember exactly, I had a very severe attack of scarlet fever which left me deaf. I never fully regained my physical strength after that illness. However, the illness did not affect my mind or mental abilities.



They tell me I was a precocious child. When I became an adult I was renowned for my learning. At age 11 I was confirmed in the Episcopal Church in New York City. I had been baptized in the Church of England as an infant. I was educated in a private school in Fishkill, NY. Later I attended the Institution for the Deaf at Hartford, CT and Trinity College, Hartford. Due to vision problems I did not graduate. I worked at Gallaudet College in Washington, DC as a clerk for two years. In 1867 I went to Cambridge, England to study at St. John's College. I don't like to brag, but in the college examination I ranked sixth in the class of hearing students.

In 1869 my health again declined and I had to return to America. I took a teaching position at the New York Institution for the Deaf. While at the institution I had the privilege and honor of working with Dr. Thomas Gallaudet heading the Bible Class of St. Ann's Church for the Deaf. Dr. Gallaudet greatly encouraged me to consider becoming a priest. That same year I took the examinations at Yale College and was awarded the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Some years later I earned Master of Arts degrees from both Yale and Trinity.

In 1874 I accepted a position as assayer in the United States Mint in Philadelphia. While in Philadelphia I was licensed as a layreader and conducted services in St. Stephen's Church. I faced great opposition from clergy who believed that someone who was not perfect in all five senses should not be allowed to officiate at the altar, that is to be a deacon or a priest.

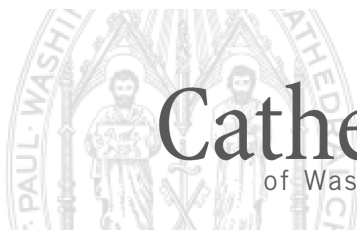
However, with the support and encouragement of Dr. Gallaudet and others I was admitted as a candidate for Holy Orders in July 1875. I was ordained a deacon one year later. I resigned my position at the mint so that I could devote all of my time to ministry. Seven years later in 1883 I was ordained a priest. Perhaps the most important contribution I made to the Episcopal Church's ministry with deaf people was All Souls' Church for the Deaf in Philadelphia. With the help of the people we raised \$13,000.00. With \$9000.00 we bought a synagogue from a local Jewish congregation and spent the remainder on repairs and alterations of the building.

In 1888 I was given full charge and responsibility of the church by the Bishop. On December 8, 1888 the church was consecrated. In 1887 I was appointed a diocesan missionary. In that same year the Rev. Jacob M. Koehler, also deaf, and I printed the first Silent Missionary. This publication has become the official newsletter of the Episcopal Conference of the Deaf and is now called the Deaf Episcopalian. In 1890 I helped start a movement to raise a fund to build a Home for the Aged and Infirm Deaf of Pennsylvania.

In many ways my life was short but it was full and satisfying. I am grateful for the time God gave me to serve on this earth.

I hope that hearing my story will touch your hearts and that you will be encouraged to serve God and the Deaf Community in new and wonderful ways.

God bless you.



eNews Update

Cathedral College

of Washington National Cathedral

American Sign Language Interpretation is now available!

This fall, we are pleased to offer American Sign Language interpretation for all of our engaging evening lectures. Two interpreters with training in spiritual and theological topics will be present for each lecture and reserved seating will be available for those who require this service.

Our exciting fall season includes:

E.O. Wilson

In This Together: Religion and Science to Save Biodiversity
Wednesday, September 20, 7:30 pm Lecture

John Danforth

A Ministry of Reconciliation: Christianity and the Political Divide
Wednesday, September 27, 7:30 pm Lecture

Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver and Priscilla Warner

The Faith Club
Wednesday, October 11, 7:30 pm Lecture

Isabel Allende with Jean Shinoda Bolen

In the Company of Legends and Friends
Tuesday, November 14, 7:30 pm Lecture

Larry Dossey

Healing Between Spirit and Medicine
Friday, December 1, 7:30 pm Lecture

Please contact Robin DeBlosi at (202) 537-5728 with any questions

Note: the senior warden, the junior warden and two members-at-large are elected during odd-numbered years and the secretary and treasurer and other two members-at-large are elected during even-numbered years. Lectionary readings can be found on the web at <http://www.satucket.com/lectionary/>

Worship Ministries

Vicar: The Rev. Barbara A. Allen

Consultant for Deaf Ministry: The Rev. Dr. Roger Pickering

Eucharistic Minister/Response Leader:

Tom Hattaway, Ed Knight, Ginny Lindsay, Mary Malzkuhn

Eucharistic Visitors: Ed Knight, Ginny Lindsay

Altar Guild: Christina Duley, Ed Knight, Mae Mullen

Acolyte: Nancy Conger

Mission Committee:

Chair: The Rev. Barbara A. Allen

Officers elected during odd-numbered years:

Vice-Chair: Tom Hattaway

Members-at-large: Ed Knight

Officers elected during even-numbered years

Asst. Vice Chair: Shelley Simms

Secretary: Wendy Ikezawa-Kohashi

Treasurer: Jim Lindsay

Members-at-large: Ginny Lindsay and Steve Holst

Other Ministries:

Tellers: Ed Knight, John Ricciardi

Vicar's Assistant: Elaine Laird

Newsletter co-editors: the Rev. Barbara A. Allen, Ed Knight

Webstewards: Ed Knight and Elaine Laird (original design by Derek Braun)

Parish Office Volunteer: Shell Kimble

Greeting Card Ministry: Mae Lynn Mullen

ECD Delegate: Mary Malzkuhn

ECD Alternate: Ginny Lindsay

Delegate to Diocesan Convention: Steve Holst

Alternate Delegate to Diocesan Convention: Jim Lindsay

Hospitality Chair: Beth Hill

ST.BARNABAS' EPISCOPAL
CHURCH OF THE DEAF

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Senior Warden: Tom Hattaway,
ThomasHattaway@aol.com

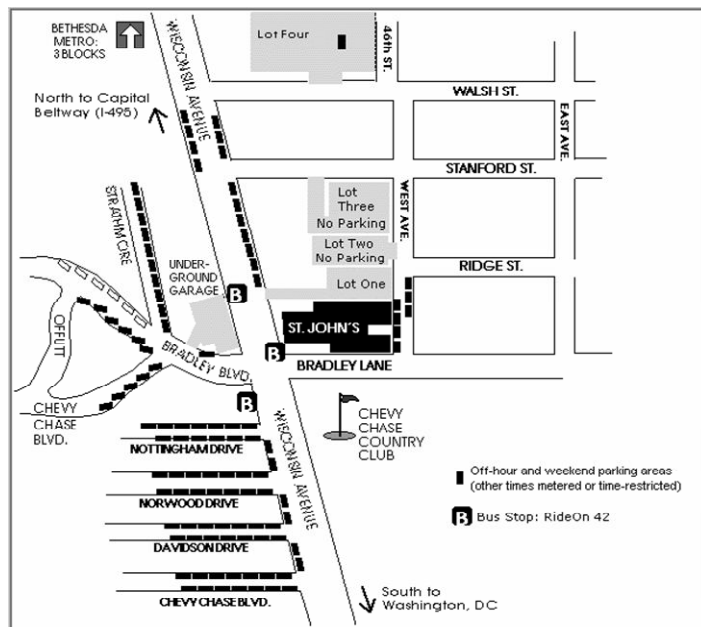
Unsolicited newsletter items/articles are welcome,
especially your digital photos related to church and
community; send to knightedd@comcast.net with
assurance that everyone in the photo has approved
its publication

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 FRIDAYS 11-3:00
DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR
DISCUSSION GROUP/LUNCH MEETING IS
HELD AT NOON EACH FRIDAY, 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*