



The Trumpet

*Our Mission: To seek and serve Christ in others,
loving our neighbors as ourselves.*

Christ Episcopal Church of Cedar Park • 3.5 miles west of Hwy. 183 on W. FM 1431 • www.cectx.org

Happy Mothers Day!

May 2009

I love it when a God plan comes together!

Dear Friends,

God is blessing us in so many new ways at CEC! For starters, you may have noticed our new road sign. Months ago when the property committee finalized the plan for our new sign, we had no idea that the new Hwy 1431 (W. Whitestone) would be constructed with a 5 foot elevation. Therefore we needed a 5 foot tightly packed strong hill for our new sign to be constructed upon in order to bring it up to road level. That was a cost we had not budgeted for. God blessed us with construction of such a hill at no cost, courtesy of the kind-hearted road crew members who are currently working on the new road site!

Another blessing came when we needed a new sewer hook up to get off our current septic system. God blessed us with a free sewer clean out connection, courtesy of members who are working on the new road site. All we have to do now is to connect our buildings with underground pipes aligned with pumps that will lead to the newly installed (free of charge) city sewer tap.

Another blessing came when we were able to pave our parking lot in a much reduced price for asphalt. Again all of these are blessings from God! With these needed maintenance items out of the way, we can now focus more on our mission calling. God has a great vision for us at CEC! I want to continue to encourage us all to

work together within our ministries to complete all of our items from the Ripe for the Harvest program Super List we compiled back in October. This is God's vision for us! Currently we have marked off several of those items. However, with God's help we have more to complete. That is, if we continue to work and pray together in the hope of allowing God to bless us!

I am pleased to announce that on Pentecost Sunday (May 31) we will be celebrating our Pentecost Folk Fest and Family Day Picnic. Let me introduce to you the Merketts: Bob and Kristen and their 3-year-old son Noah Merkett. Bob and Kristen (*see photo, pg. 3*) will perform live spiritual folk music during our 10:30 Pentecost service and then afterwards will perform an entertaining concert during our family day picnic. The Men's group will provide delicious barbeque and there will be family relay games afterwards. Please invite your friends to come and share with us in this event! Always remember we are giving thanks and blessings to God for all the wonderful things in His grace He gives to us. We are God's blessings!

God is Great!

Bruce†

A poem for Mom

A hero I find
In a stranger with pride
Walking on a street
Passing me by.

A hero I find
In a close friend
who always seems to be able to lend
A shoulder to cry on
An ear to listen
A person to trust in.

A hero I find
In a person I see everyday
That tries to make this world
a better place for me.

She loves me
And corrects me
And when I'm scared,
she direct me.

She teaches me the right from wrong
The weak from the strong
And love and family
are important to hold on.

She saved me from
all eer and doom
And gave me shelter
Gave me a room.

She is a haven
A sanctuary for me
Her name is "Mommy"
But only to me.

- *Samantha Hein*
(written when she was 14 years old)

Samantha is the loving daughter of CEC's Tish Rogers.
Tish is part of the Faith Partners Ministry

Mom's Yarn of Faith

By *Marianne Bates*

I don't know if this is really an Epiphany Story or an odd coincidence, or the Lord at work. For the last three weeks my mother has been packing up for yet another move. These are always stressful times because my mom is a pack rat. And she is trying very hard to pass the tradition onto me.

During these moves, I am inundated with phone calls asking me if I want this or that, or can I store something for her. Last week, as I left her new apartment, she asked me if I knew anyone who knitted as she handed me a large plastic bag filled with yarn. I was tired, I was in a hurry to leave because I had to pick up Mollie from her Cadette meeting. I told my mom I don't know anyone who knits. But considering the fact that the bag was already in my hand, and knowing that my mom would still expect me to take it anyway, I reluctantly offered that I could probably find someone who will have a use for the yarn. I carried the bag outside and deposited it in the trunk of my car, where it stayed for six days.

On Sunday, as I sat at the CEC Worship Service, listening to the announcements, the furthest thing from my mind was that big bag of yarn in the trunk of my car. Then Jill McDonald stood up. She asked for yarn, knitting needles and anything of the like for VBS in June. The light bulb went off. I was so excited that I broke a big rule....I texted in church. (I'm so sorry Fr. Bruce) I texted my mother to tell her I found the perfect home for her big bag of yarn.

After the service, I excitedly handed the bag over to Jill. Suddenly it made sense. Why on Earth would mom offer me a bag of yarn? And why on Earth would I just accept it without argument? I understand now it was not *anything on Earth*. It was a lot higher than that.

*Thank you for sharing your Epiphany story, Marianne.
You can too!*

Share your Epiphany in The Trumpet all year long

Everybody has those "Aha!" moments: epiphanies big and small. Those rare times when everything makes sense for a change. Those times when God is speaking to you and you hear the message soft and still ... or loud and clear. Share your Epiphany story in Trumpet newsletter each month. Send your Epiphany story by the Wednesday before the first Sunday of the month to: trumpet@cec-tx.org

A gift for all season

by Fran Hart

Have you ever given a gift that made you truly feel “it is more blessed to give than to receive?” Maybe it was the joyous reaction of the receiver. Maybe it was seeing the gift being used. Something in the experience made you want to give more. Other times, I know from my own experience, the gift seems to be a complete “flop,” missing the mark or going unappreciated.

Cash or gift cards are fast and easy, and the recipients can do as they choose with the gift. Once given, we can't do much about what is done with the gift, but we might find ourselves later thinking “Well, I'm sure not going to give them another gift card! What a waste!”

Once you give a gift, you can't control what's done with it but how it's received and used might affect your future gift-giving behavior.

Easter is a special season for celebrating the greatest gift imaginable. “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16) We didn't ask for this gift, we don't have to earn this gift; it is ours to do with as we wish. Gifts are like that.

“Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.” (Revelation 22:17) What a blessing! This is a gift that keeps on giving.

If that weren't enough, other gifts have been bestowed on us individually. 1 Corinthians 12 outlines the spiritual gifts and talents we have received and how we can work together to fulfill God's will, to establish His kingdom on earth. Each of us must identify and develop our talents. We must also

seek insight into God's intended purpose for our gifts. Every one of us has talent we are called to use in our community of faith and in all of our daily activities. We must look within ourselves and look around us to understand and apply our abilities appropriately.

In accepting these gifts, we must give thanks. There are many ways we can show our thanks, but the best way (beyond the obvious – saying “thanks”) is to use the talents we have been given. “Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.” (1 Peter 4:10-11)

One last thing that I know to be true: God is generous and will reward our gracious acceptance of these gifts with even more gifts! The Gospel tells us “Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.” This means whoever accepts and uses the gifts God gives will be given more. God's gifts to us as individuals have a ‘use it or lose it’ policy.

To all of us, God has given His Son, sacrificed Him so our sins are forgiven, we are renewed, and He blesses us with His loving kindness. Beyond that, He has given us everything that we have, and as faithful stewards our rewards are bountiful. Praise His name through this Easter Season, a time of renewal and grace. Accept His gifts and honor Him by thankfully using the gifts He has given especially to you.



True Tails: You can learn a lot from your pet

Pets are a part of the family that make a house a home

by David Enders

Sadie was my wife Polly's cat for 21 years. She had found the tiny, Russian Blue kitten abandoned in the woods when she was a teenager. And this quiet, little cat stuck by her through thick and thin as she made her way into the world. By the time I met and married my wife, Sadie was already an elderly cat and I thought always seemed to have an otherworldly presence about her. For one thing, she was made of a smooth, gray, catlike material that had absolutely no weight. She would sit on your lap and you could not feel any pressure. She was very small, she was extremely quiet, and as a pet, she made no demands on you except that you just relax and be still. Which she knew was difficult for humans. If you moved around too much -- even if you displayed too much affection while petting her -- she would bite you correctively and give you the look: "Just be still." Yes. She had the cat stare like all cats have, but her cat eyes had an unmistakable ancient wisdom behind them. She could gaze at you motionless for a very, very long time. "Sepa la gata," the Latinos have long said, which means "The cat knows!" They are right. The cat knows ... but the cat's not talking. The cat wants you to figure it out for yourself.

Anyway, once we were married and grew our family to two grown ups, two kids, two dogs and two cats (and a bird) we decided we needed a larger house. This was during another recession back in the 90's, and houses were not selling quickly. We had already committed to a builder to build a bigger home one block away, but we weren't so sure how we were going to pay for it -- it all hinged on selling our current home for a reasonable price. Our house had been on the market for many months and one hot, August afternoon a realtor called and said she had a couple who wanted to look at the house. "Can you be out of the house in 20 minutes?" No problem, I thought, as I was the only one home since Polly and the kids had gone to visit her mother in north Texas. I raced to clean up the place as best I could and get out for the rest of the day since I had to go to work that Saturday anyway. As I was hurriedly backing out of the driveway, I heard and felt a thump under the tire. I knew immediately what it was. Sadie, by this time very rickety and frail, insisted on spending most of her time outside in the summer heat

and lately had taken the habit of curling up to sleep in the shade under the car. Amazingly, she was still alive. For all intents and purposes looked completely unharmed. But how could she be! I scooped her up and put her in a box to take her to the vet only a few blocks away. She curled up in her normal sleeping position. Didn't make a sound. I apologized to her in the car. She said, "Don't worry about it."

At the vets, her eyes grew fixed and dilated and she passed quickly, quietly and peacefully. I took her home and buried her under a big oak tree in the back yard of the new house being built, the one we hoped would be ours. I called my wife and told her I had some bad news. Before I could say anything more, she said, "Sadie died." I told her about the accident and apologized and she said "Don't worry about it."

I tried to go to work, but I was upset and couldn't concentrate in that big building all alone. I don't know why, but I went to Highland Mall shopping center and just sat on a bench. Maybe it was just a clean, well-lighted place with lots of people around. After about thirty minutes a complete stranger approached me directly: a frail, rickety young man in his early 20's. Smiling as he leaned on his crutches. Stood right before me as I sat on the bench and without introduction he said, "You believe in miracles don't you?" I said I guess I did, probably not too convincingly. He said "I am one," and then he made his way back into the busy shopping crowd.

Three days later I read in the newspaper that astrophysicists had recorded loud impacts on the planet Jupiter -- 21 loud impacts to be exact. They didn't know what to make of it. Neither do I, but the old house sold and we moved into the new home with the big, shady oak trees. We really didn't have to do anything special...just be still. Sepa la gata!

Animal Lovers: Send your "True Tails: You Can Learn A Lot From Your Pet" stories to trumpet@cec-tx.org And Contact Jill McDonald to find out more about the CEC Pet Ministry or go to www.centraltexasSPCA.org to find out how you can help animals in our community

MAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

May 10

10:30 a.m. Wes Lowe/Kathy Lowe: **Lectors**
Wes Lowe/Kathy Lowe: **LEMs**
Cindy Wells: **Altar Guild**
Jonah & Mike Reeh: **Ushers**
Rachel Holliman/Christopher Knox: **Acolytes**

May 17

10:30 a.m. Thelma Thompson/Sarah Martinez: **Lectors**
Thelma Thompson/Sarah Martinez: **LEMs**
Martha McEver: **Altar Guild**
Tony & Elias Martinez: **Ushers**
Jonah Reeh/Emma Simms: **Acolytes**

May 24

10:30 a.m. Jim Hart/Fran Hart: **Lectors**
Jim Hart/Fran Hart: **LEMs**
Cathy Valucek: **Altar Guild**
Adam Uthoff/Elias Martinez: **Acolytes**
Garrett & Travis Krischke: **Ushers**

May 31

10:30 a.m. Travis Krischke/Randall Holahan: **Lectors**
Travis Krischke/Randall Holahan: **LEMs**
Elias Martinez/Cierra Abbott: **Acolytes**
Jobie Guzman: **Altar Guild**
Belz Family: **Ushers**

June 7

10:30 a.m. Jan Halstead/Marilee Verdesca: **Lectors**
Jan Halstead/Marilee Verdesca: **LEMs**
Tony Alvarez/Elena Martinez: **Acolytes**
Travis Hart/Suzie Scanlon: **Ushers**
Kathy Ashlock: **Altar Guild**

8:00 Worship Leaders

First Sunday of the Month: Thelma Thompson

Second Sunday of the Month: Randall Holahan

Third Sunday of the Month: Travis Krischke

Fourth Sunday of the Month: Kirsten Lynch

Fifth Sunday of the Month: Kathryn Bonner

Alternates: Jan & Jerry Halstead

Vestry Person for Month of May: Travis Krischke
Offering Counter for Month of April: Jobie Guzman

VACATION BIBLE ADVENTURE 2009

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Tools For Life

June 15-18
6:00-8:30 p.m.



Each evening we'll enjoy arts and crafts,
snacks, games, music and more!

Registration runs March 29 - May 31

\$10 per child

Ages 3 through incoming 5th graders

Christ Episcopal Church

Located on FM 1431 3.5 miles west of Hwy. 183
(before Trails' End Road)

Call 267-2428 or visit our website at
www.cectx.org



Honor Thy Mother

"God could not be everywhere and therefore he made mothers." -- A Jewish Proverb

"All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel Mother."
-- Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865)

"Making the decision to have a child-it's momentous. It is to decide forever to have your heart go walking around outside your body."
--Elizabeth Stone

"The mother's heart is the child's schoolroom."
-- Henry Ward Beecher

Staff and Ministry Coordinators:

Rector:Rev. Bruce Bonner 267-2428
Acolytes:Kristi Uthoff 986-5524
Adult Ed.:David Enders 259-4430
Altar Guild:Jobie Guzman 267-1462
Angel Food Ministry: Arthur Callaway 218-9150
Children's Ministry:Jennifer Cowles 260-7575
Communications: ..Marilee Verdesca 864-1942
Connections Class: Rev. Bruce Bonner 267-2428
Cursillo:Jan Halstead 259-5430
Episcoplayers:Randall Holahan 260-1774
Faith Partners.....Elizabeth Burba 259-1345
Robert Wren 255-7494
Flower Ministry:Jill McDonald 248-1938
God's Geeks:Randall Holahan 260-1774
Greeters:.....Tony Alvarez 986-5678
Hill Country Comm. Min.: Dorothy Keelin 260-0817
Honduras Med. Mission: Jerry Halstead 259-5430
Hospitality:.....Jennie Krischke 259-0409
Lectors/LEM's:Fran Hart 291-2726
Music Ministry:Patty Craig 267-7981
Pet Ministry:Jill McDonald 248-1938
Prayer Ministry:Sid Gervais 255-0278
Prayers of the People: ...Elizabeth Burba 259-1345
PrayFast Ministry: ..Christine Luchini 267-2476
Stewardship:.....Travis Krischke 259-0409
Trumpet:David Enders 259-4430
Ushers:Mandy Moore 528-9588
Womens' Ministry: .Kathryn Bonner 260-7797
Youth Ministry:....Melissa Cox

2009 Bishop's Committee:

Co-Senior Wardens:

Charlie Cole & Sarah Martinez

Members:

Tony Alvarez.....986-5678
Jan Buntebart.....528-9338
Charlie Cole.....294-2958
David Enders.....259-4430
Jerry Halstead.....259-5430
Jim Hart.....291-2726
Travis Krischke.....259-0409
Sarah Martinez.....260-1326
Andrew Verdesca.....864-1942

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requests: prayerrequest@cectx.org

Deadline for Trumpet Newsletter
is the Wednesday before the first Sunday of the month.
Email Trumpet at:
trumpet@cec-tx.org

Seven "Blunders" of the World

1. Wealth without work
2. Pleasure without conscience
3. Knowledge without character
4. Commerce without morality
5. Science without humanity
6. Worship without sacrifice
7. Politics without principle

- Mahatma Gandhi -