



St. Raphael the Archangel Episcopal Church

Vol 53 Issue 9

September 2018

Woven into all the sermons about John 6 and bread over the last month, I hope that you heard a message of God's grace. Faith is the gift of life-giving grace – whether we are talking about the Eucharist, our life in community, our friendships new and old, our family lives, our health, the things we own and don't own, all the ups and downs of life. Grace is the thread through the lives and stories we read in the Bible, the prayers we say together, our being together, side-by-side, on any Sunday, any service, here at St Raphael's.

To explore the extent of God's grace, I have spoken of GRACE as attributes of God offered in Generosity, Reconciliation, Acceptance, Compassion, Encouragement. A life of grace that God intended for all creation to know, all humanity to live, and for the church in mission to be. I can't think for long about grace without being reminded of the lyrics to "Amazing Grace", penned by John Newton (1725-1807). Once the captain of a slave ship, Newton converted to Christianity after an encounter with God in a violent storm at sea:

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail
And mortal life shall cease
I shall possess within the veil
A life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun.

Now, there's a hymn to sing!

Blessings,
Helen



Rev. Canon Dr. Helen
Van Koevering

Senior Warden's Corner



The worm within
That will not let me rest
Says, "Now, now, now",
I have no patience
When it comes to what I think I want,
But God, who knows me better than I'll ever know
myself,
Says, "Wait, wait, wait,
My time is not yours, my child.
Give me your fears and trust that I will know the
moment
When you are ready for the lesson you must learn.
I see beneath your skin and bones into that sacred
space
Where, meeting, you and I in love are face to face.

I can look back on more than one instance
when God has taken such good care of me by not
granting my immediate prayer and, waiting until I
was safely past the swamp I was about to fall into, to
give me what I needed when I could understand the
lesson. Hasn't that happened to you all as you look
back on your lives? I know I never got past the
swamp on my own, either. The sure and loving hand
of God reached out to me even though I was
unknowing at the time.

September is a time when the harvest is ripe
and the time of reaping is to begin. Ponder on those
times when God's love gave you comfort and
strength and your spirituality was nourished by His
love.

CC

Food Pantry Items

If you, or someone you know needs food
assistance, remember that we have a stocked
pantry downstairs. Please take any items you may
need. Let Rev. Helen know if you have any
questions or concerns about helping out with this
ministry.

Stewardship Report

Stewardship went on vacation in August this year. Or
was it that Stewardship was too busy getting ready for
back to school? Or was it that Stewardship was just dog
tired in the dog days of August and quit on us?

Got your attention, didn't I? The people I have met and
know at our church are INCAPABLE of putting
Stewardship out to pasture. Try to imagine yourself not
doing a single thing for the church or our congregation
for one whole month?

Recently I saw Dave moving chairs and tablecloths
around. I saw Paula picking up stray bulletins while
preparing the front of the church. I saw Erica giving a
"save" to one of the younger celebrants up front when
their attention span wavered. I saw Don giving sage
advice from the back row. I saw Patty dragging herself
into church to talk about finances. I saw Dana ensuring
that all the paper preparations were in order for
Helen's installation. I saw Bonnie getting information
from someone to help them with a church function. I
saw Paula pulling her hair out over a Six Cents mistake
by our bank. I saw Don and Jack pulling duty after
church was over to count the blessings and put them on
the proper form. I saw Hunter becoming an instant
expert at the latest building issue brought to him. I saw
Nancy preparing to get out one of her mulch trucks. And
now I can even see more with my two newly modified
eyes! I just have to look around and take them in.

And we all saw what a lovely and moving ceremony
that Helen's installation was, fueled by days and hours
and minutes and seconds of stewardship examples all
across the church. I even saw one of our parishioners
that has difficulty speaking making a special effort to
welcome the West Virginians at hand.

So, later this year as we embark on another stewardship
campaign for 2019, keep all these treasured moments
locked away in your heart. We are indeed a very
GENEROUS church, and I am proud of each and
everyone of us, including our Rector.

Roger Kirk

Christian Education - Will you help?

Christian Education Ministry resumes on Sept. 9th at 10:00 AM here at St. Raphael's. We have from 8 to 10 children who participate regularly, and the adult Wired Word class will meet as well.

Marla Foxx will host children up to 1st Grade beginning at 9:45 and lasting until Communion starts at the 11:00 service. We need a couple of volunteers to help with this group as there are usually 3-5 children present, and for safety reasons, we are required to have this kind of supervision. If you would be willing to help staff once or twice a month, if not each week, that would be a great help. If we can get enough people, we could alternate volunteers so that each person would only be needed one or two Sundays a month.

2nd Grade through 5th Grade will meet with Lee Davis, Susan Baker and Natalie Fagin. This class meets downstairs in the classrooms on the elevator side of the hall.

6th Grade thru 8th Grade will meet with Diana Trapp, and we need another volunteer for this group as well. They will meet in the classroom downstairs directly behind the elevator. We will be exploring the lives of people in the Bible and how God used them to further His Kingdom.

The Wired Word group will continue to meet in the Bride's Room with Erica Mayers.

The Curriculum for the Children is well prepared and requires very little prep work. The volunteers are needed to satisfy the Safeguarding God's Children policy of the Diocese, and could be met with multiple people trading off one or two Sundays a month.

Please consider helping us in this ministry. It doesn't take much time, and the class leaders really appreciate your help. Let Dana Berry know if you are willing to help in one of the volunteer spots as soon as possible. Dana can be reached by phone at 859-381-1830, or by email: danabruceberry@gmail.com

The Crittenden-Story vs. the Christ-Story

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. Acts 2:42-43 New International Version (NIV)

A few months ago I was invited to join the team of a high end men's wear store, (Crittenden's) and being one always interested in fashion I immediately accepted. Very soon I found myself welcoming customers and in other instances calling them to make them aware of the special sales and other events at the store. To be honest, I was hesitant as I didn't want to invade the privacy of these gentlemen. To my surprise I was met with nothing but kindness and receptive ears. Soon I realized the reason for the warm welcome and I found that it was similar to why we should go out and invite others to experience what we have to offer as a church.

Our store has history and a story to tell. As the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement we have a history that's connected to the See of Canterbury and therefore to the church catholic. We also have a wonderful story to share, the story of the Christ that came to die on our behalf and still very active among us through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. And what about our own story? We all have a reason why we call ourselves Christians and story that lead and continue to lead us to the altar every week.

Our store has a very unique product that has no equal in the market. And so it is with the Church, we also have a very unique offer to make to people, the opportunity to come up close and very personal with God through Jesus our savior. Only the Church can offer this.

But especially, we intentionally make an effort to make all our customers feel welcome, appreciated and to provide to them a sense of belonging. The doors of the Church should always be open to all, those we agree with but most important to those that we disagree with and maybe very different from us.

A View from the Pew

I concluded Part One in last month's issue with two observations. First, that America's secular state, led by the Constitution and its submersion of religion to the rule of law, applied fairly and consistently across the board to all humans regardless of race, religion, class or culture is a righteous and holy institution. Second, that this is just as Jesus would want it.

I noted that our secular state was under attack by certain segments of Christianity trying at every turn to submit government control to their religious ideology, and thus doling out favors, power, prestige and position according to their subjective, traditions-of-man belief system, a practice of Christianity that often distorts the teachings of Jesus, as well as the mandates of the Constitution of the United States of America. Indeed, this is the mindset that led to the doctrine of Manifest Destiny, to the subjugation of races, and to the unequal treatment of others. I therefore asked what followers of Jesus could do to see his will done, and to ensure that our holy, secular state survives.

First and foremost, we should focus on living according to Jesus's teachings. His way, God's Way, is simple: love God with all you've got, and love others (ALL others, friends and enemies) as yourself.

Second, as Anglicans we have a duty to pursue the highest truth, to promote justice and to lead with love. We should therefore promote the truth of God that heaven is not a restricted club for Christians only, but is open to all, Christians and non-Christians alike. On a subjective level, God spoke this truth to me in church one Sunday while I was sitting in the front left pew of Good Shepherd back in my college days. Part of my life's quest has been to develop a truer world-view, and to discern the true significance of what I heard in that church so long ago. The Spirit led me serendipitously to incontrovertible proof of what God told me, proof right from the Bible itself.

First, God ordained three distinct yet equally blessed religions, the "book" religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. The Biblical story of Abraham proves this, beyond a shadow of a doubt. Abraham (then Abram) was 85-86 but Sarah (then Sarai) had not borne him children. She thus gave him permission to have a child with Hagar, their servant girl, who indeed did get pregnant. Now Hagar was a young, beautiful girl, and she flaunted herself in front of Sarah, who then kicked her out of the home.

On the wilderness road, an angel of the Lord came to a despairing Hagar and told her: "Go back to your mistress and submit to her." 10 The angel added, "I will increase your descendants so much that they will be too numerous to count." 11 The angel of the Lord also said to her: "You are now pregnant and you will give birth to a son. You shall name him Ishmael,[a] for the Lord has heard of your misery. 12 He will be a wild donkey of a man; his hand will be against everyone and everyone's hand against him, and he will live in hostility toward[b] all his brothers." Gen. 16:7-12.

Hagar returns, Ishmael is born, and they live as a family for 13 years. But God came to Abraham to say that his covenant with him would be through Sarah and that she would bear him a child. They laughed, for he was 99 and Sarah was 90. But she



bore him a son, Isaac, which means 'to laugh.'

Again, Sarah tells Abraham to expel Hagar and Ishmael. Abraham fretted "But God said to him, "Do not be so distressed about the boy and your slave woman. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring[b] will be reckoned. 13 I will make the son of the slave into a nation also, because he is your offspring." Gen. 21:12. So they leave, but again on the wilderness road Sarah despairs as they run out of food and water. But "17 God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. 18 Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation."

So twice God comes to Hagar and a third time to Abraham telling them that he will make a great nation of Ishmael, a nation God ordained would be separate from his others (Jews and Christians). As it turned out, Ishmael is the Patriarch of the Islamic faith, his descendants are today's Muslims. From Isaac came the Jewish nation, from which Jesus came.

No amount of Christian evangelism will turn Muslims to "Christianity," nor is it necessary, nor even appropriate to deign to do so (by the way, you will find no greater glorification and honor of Jesus than in the Quran. Islam venerates Jesus as a holy prophet, and honors his mother, Mary, in the highest esteem). As God ordained, the nation of Ishmael, shall forever be separate from the others, yet equally blessed.

Yet God is the great Almighty Universal spirit (as Jesus said, God is spirit). Thus, God is certainly the same God of all others beyond the Biblical religions. These universal blessings have for eons past, and will for eons to come, be showered on all people, of every stripe, both in and out of "the book."

Jesus said, "And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one flock, and one shepherd." John 10:16. Jesus spoke in allegories. He was the good shepherd who took his orders from God. The sheep are his obedient and trusting followers. His sheep accepted his way, God's Way. That way is simply to love God with all you've got, and to love others (ALL others, friends and enemies) as yourself. So, however Jesus did it then, or through the Holy Spirit does it now, others continue to be brought into the fold of a universal God.

Birds of a feather may flock together, but none rule the roost of God's blessings. All humans are equally entitled to peace, justice, and God's blessings (or as Thomas Jefferson penned in one of the holiest documents ever published, America's Declaration of Independence, "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness"). The more the followers of Jesus understand this, the more we can not only accept, but love others as equal incarnations of the divine.

Richard Dawahare

Note: The views expressed are those of the author.



A Church Mouse in God's House

So it looks like this whole “Dinner Church” thing has really taken off. I can’t say that I’m completely surprised, after all I’ve been eating parts of your church for dinner for years. Of course I usually don’t have the kind of discussions that you do while I’m having a nibble. That seems to be at the heart of this for you – talking about how you can make the world a better place.

That is some pretty intense thinking! I always think, “well I’m just one little mouse, what can I do?” I suppose some of you probably think that way too. Sometimes I think I’m right.

There are LOTS of things with our world that need to be fixed, and no human or mouse acting alone seems likely to make much of a difference.

Which is why I’ve been impressed with your strategy of coming together to make change. Maybe that’s even what the whole “church” thing is about... strength in numbers, a common cause to collectively right the wrongs of the world. Heaven help me, I’m starting to sound like I’m going to break into song.

But I wouldn’t be earning my cheese if I didn’t throw out a little wisdom from the mice. Sometimes you’re going to fail. A lot of times. I know, I sound like a pestamist (see what I did there?). But I’m just being honest. And here is what the great mice of the world have realized: even when you fail, you still get something out of the effort. It’s like giving to a cause has rewards itself, even if the cause isn’t accomplished. Maybe you’ll form some good relationships, maybe you’ll have a small impact, maybe you’ll just get a sense of personal fulfillment.

Maybe I’m just giddy because the harvest is approaching, but I will leave you with this: Go forth and fail boldly, and if you succeed instead, even better!

P.S. Thanks for not killing me.



September Birthdays

Kym Dedman	Sep 2
Haley Morgan	Sep 4
Mark Van Koevering	Sep 6
Alberto Mazzoleni	Sep 12
Chris Bollinger	Sep 14
Steve Krolak	Sep 15
Beth Bollinger	Sep 16
Don Miller	Sep 19
Steffen Wilson	Sep 21
Vicki Stevens	Sep 25

Anniversaries

Bill & Debbie Emrick	Sep 12
Dick & Doris McNally	Sep 16
Kym & Kym Dedman	Sep 29
JeanEllen & Jonathon Melton	Sep 29

Datebook

Sept. 6 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsals resume

Sept 7 11:30 am ECW Fall kickoff at the Gift Box & Tea Room, Keithshire Place Shopping Center

Sept 8 10:00 am Quilters, Knitters & Crocheters unite!

We’re starting a group to make prayer quilts and shawls for people who are sick or in need of a little extra comfort. If you’re interested in coming to help make baby quilts for the NICU’s at local hospitals, knitted or crocheted prayer shawls for people in nursing homes, or confined to home-care, come join us. If you have extra fabric, yarn, needles, hooks, old sheets, rotary cutters, blades, cutting mats, large rulers, etc, please bring them. Even if you just want to learn to quilt or knit, or crochet, come join us.

Sept. 9 10:00 am. Christian Ed Classes Resume

Sept. 11 6:30 pm Stewardship meeting

Sept. 15th 10:00 - 3:00pm. DOK Fall Retreat for DioLex

All are welcome to attend.

Sept 18, 6:30 PM Vestry meeting

Sept. 20 Sages luncheon will be at the Beaumont Inn in Harrodsburg. The best route is to take the Bluegrass Parkway to the Harrodsburg exit, Hwy. 127 south. Go through town on 127, turn left when you see a sign on the left for the Inn, which is on the left. Hosts are Bill and Sharon Thompson, 223-4639. Please call Bill & Sharon to reserve your spot!

Sept 23 12:30 pm DOK Monthly meeting

Sept 29, FEAST OF ST RAPHAEL CELEBRATED

5:30 PM Dinner Church

Sept 30, ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CELEBRATED

Building the Vision for our Parish

The Vestry has begun the process of building the vision for St Raphael's for the next year. We are considering where we are, and where we want to be as a church family. We make a difference in the world when we care enough to look outside ourselves and move into action. Knowing where we are, and how we matter to the world is an important part of ministry. Why should people care about coming to St. Raphael's? Do WE know why we are important to each other and to the world around us?

We are examining how we can begin to better organize and function as a team - the church isn't just about a priest leading everything and the people taking it all in. It takes every single person in the church working together to build a welcoming church where people come to learn about God, and how to be what God wants them to be in the community. We are encouraging everyone at St. Raphael's to consider being part of making our vision process a reality. We say we want to be "Welcome, Regardless"- but what does that mean to you? Is it more than just a slogan? When we were working on finding our new priest, the overwhelming majority said it was what set us apart. That we accepted everyone. Well, it's time to put that into action. How do we accomplish that when only about 10 people participate in the work of the church? The Vestry is encouraging each of you, from students to retired adults to consider how you can make a difference for someone who comes through our doors. The list below encompasses the teams that make a church function. Right now, we're only using some of these, and for the most part, it's the same people who do all the work. Please consider what YOU can do to further God's Kingdom here at St. Raphael - and ultimately the community!

Organizational Teams – with a shared ministry to be the Church

Finance (budget and administration of finances)

Property (building and grounds)

Worship (planning services – music, altar guild, acolytes, ushers, lectors, pew cards for visitors)

Hospitality/Fellowship (Church Dinners, ECW, special events & receptions – baptisms, confirmation, Bishop's visits, Welcome Cookies for visitors, Art Gallery, birthday/anniversary cards, help with meals for the sick, or those who are grieving over the loss of a loved one, a phone call to someone who hasn't been able to come to church for some reason, etc.)

Education (Training the trainers – passing it on - children's education, adult education, confirmation, nursery staff support & newcomers)

Communication (Newsletter, bulletins, e-minders, telephone tree, FB, special news announcements)

Mission – Both within the church and out. (Backpacks, Outreach, BUILD, Prison Ministry, Reading Camp, Pastoral Care)

Everyone is invited to join at least one Team at an age and ability-appropriate level. Please don't use the excuse that "I'm too old, too young, too busy, etc. to keep you from serving on one of these teams.

Sign up sheets will be placed at the back of the church soon. We're asking everyone is consider joining and participating in at least one of these areas, and no more than three. Don't worry about logistics! We can work together to make anything happen! Just be present and participate!



Spiritual Gifts Inventory, Short Form

A method to help you discover your gifts. Check the items which best describe you.

1. _____ I prefer ministering by myself rather than in a group. G
2. _____ People often say I am impulsive and direct. A
3. _____ My financial resources are above average. A
4. _____ I like to counsel people on a short-term basis. D
5. _____ I am a task-oriented person. G
6. _____ I love directing other people's work. B
7. _____ It's natural for me to show kindness to people. E
8. _____ People learn easily from me. C
9. _____ I can be very persuasive. F
10. _____ More than 10 percent of my income goes for Christian causes. A
11. _____ People often follow my advice. D
12. _____ I normally use several books in lesson preparation. C
13. _____ I like to recruit and lead people. B
14. _____ One-on-one relationships are important to me. E
15. _____ I possess a variety of talents and abilities. G
16. _____ I want to measure everything by God's Word. F
17. _____ Material possessions don't mean much to me. A
18. _____ Discouraged people are encouraged by my words. D
19. _____ Being accurate and truthful are important to me. C
20. _____ I love the challenge of accomplishing an organization goal. G
21. _____ Other people's spiritual welfare genuinely concerns me. D
22. _____ I usually make quick decisions. F
23. _____ I look for ways to help the unfortunate and downtrodden. E
24. _____ Criticism doesn't bother me. C
25. _____ I often volunteer my time and talents to worthwhile causes. G
26. _____ I am usually self-confident. B
27. _____ I don't expect repayment for favors I do for others. E
28. _____ I enjoy being responsible for the success of the group. B
29. _____ When a question about truth comes up, I am normally right. F
30. _____ Deadlines challenge me, and I usually meet them on time. B
31. _____ People in pain are comforted by my presence. D

Total your checks: A _____, B _____, C _____, D _____, E _____, F _____, G _____

Recording a 3, 4, or 5 after a letter indicates a Spiritual Gift.

EXPLANATION

For Short Spiritual Gifts Inventory

A. GIVING

You contribute material resources, and do God's work with liberality and cheerfulness. You contribute sacrificially, motivate others, and don't shun pressure or publicity. Romans 12:13 – "Share with God's people."

B. ADMINISTRATION

You lead and communicate in such a way that people work harmoniously to reach goals for God's purpose. You enjoy being a leader and can endure adverse reaction to get the job done. You enjoy seeing tasks complete; are able to set guidelines, schedules, and policies; and can delegate to get the work done. Romans 12:14 – "Bless those who persecute you."

C. TEACHING

You communicate the truth with obvious results. You believe your gift is foundational and work systematically and with accuracy. Romans 12:11 – "Keep spiritual fervor."

D. EXHORTATION

You minister by giving comfort, consolation, and encouragement so people feel helped and healed. Problems are only challenges, and you are drawn to those seeking spiritual growth. You can share personal failures to prompt others to talk. Learning and teaching practical information is your desire. Romans 12:12 – "Joyful, patient and faithful."

E. MERCY

You feel compassion for those who are suffering and perform deeds to reflect God's love. You are naturally drawn to hurting people, sensitive, giving, loving and desire healing. Romans 12:15-16 – "Rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with mourners, live in harmony."

F. PROPHECY

The goal of those who have the gift of prophecy is to bring persons face to face with God. You discern, reveal motives and actions, have strong convictions and a need to express them. Impulsive, direct, and persuasive, you normally are a strong person. Romans 12:9 – "Love must be sincere, hate evil, cling to good."

G. SERVING

You identify and meet the needs of others using personal as well as other resources. You see needs and enjoy responding. You work best short-term and alone (do it now and quickly). You possess endurance and stamina and have a tendency to do too much. Romans 12:10 – "Be devoted, honor one another."

(Used with permission from Easum, Bandy, & Associates, Inc. (www.easumbandy.com).
Inventory can be found in workbook: *Discovering Our Place in God's World* and in
Development of Church Officers in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church by Chris Joiner)

The Crittenden-Story vs. the Christ-Story continued from page 3

We need make this our intentional effort and it certainly should not rest on the shoulders of the clergy alone. We all should be dwelling in the teachings of the apostles and we all should be willing to go the extra mile so whoever comes through our doors finds himself or herself in the threshold of hope.

Jesus Manuel Huertas, D. B. S.

Offering Envelops in the Pews

Recently, as we begin the process of building our 2019 budget for the church, we have been reviewing the “business” side - the things we do that require funding, and how these things benefit the parish and affect our finances. Sometimes “little things” done in a different way can help provide savings down the road that will help with funding other projects.

One of these “little things” involves the Stewardship Pledge Envelops that people sometimes use to submit their contributions to the church. We only have about ten people who actually use the envelops each year, but we have to buy them in lots of 50. Some people use them because they give their pledge in cash, and the envelop identifies who gave the case to the treasurer. They also provide privacy for giving.

It’s not a huge amount of money to spend, but it is a pretty consistent waste of resources since the unused envelops sit in the office. So the Vestry is offering a solution that will save some money, limit the wasted envelops, and provide folks with the same benefit - submitting their pledge in a private manner.

We will be placing small envelops in each pew marked “My Sunday Offering.” The envelop has printed on the front a place to put your name, the date the money is being offered, and places to check whether the gift is for a Pledge, a gift to Friends of Music, or Other Donation. It also has a check box for the check number, or if the gift is in cash. This will help those who count the money each Sunday in identifying gifts for the correct funds.

It will also provide everyone with the opportunity to use the envelops, especially visitors.

You may continue to use your current envelops through the end of the year. We will not be offering them for 2019 however. You may begin using the new envelops now. We will also keep extras at the back of the church for your convenience.

Thank you for your cooperation in this change. We appreciate all your support!

My Sunday Offering

Name: _____

Date: _____

_____ Pledge _____ Friends of Music

_____ Other Donation _____

☐ Check # _____ ☐ Cash

ST. RAPHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1891 Parkers Mill Road
Lexington, KY 40504

Daughters of the King Fall Retreat for Diocese of Lexington Sept 15th at St. Raphael's



All are welcome to participate in the Fall Retreat for the Diocese of Lexington Chapters for the DOK to be held at St.

Raphael's on Sept. 15th from 10:00am to 3:00pm. Luncheon will be served.

Rev. Helen will be installed as the new Chaplain for the Daughters beginning at 2:00pm. Bishop Provisional Mark Van Koevering will be officiating at the service.

Register to attend by Sept. 9th via email to Natalie Sweet at natalieh.sweet@gmail.com, or Lee Davis at deejadavis@gmail.com; 859-381-1830. Registration fee is \$10.00 for the luncheon.

Celebration of a new ministry - Rev. Helen's Installation Service & Reception



Combined choirs from St. Raphael's, St. John's and St. Marks (WV friends)



Installation Service



Music Notes

*Moving from Summer to
Fall at St. Raphael Parish*

Melinda Storey

The highpoint of the summer at St. Raphael was undoubtedly the Installation of our new Rector on August 12. It was a beautiful service, rich in symbolism and liturgy. There were 17 or 18 people in the choir, with singers from St. Mark and St. Alban Episcopal Churches in Charleston WV joining our choir members to form a magnificent chorus. Bill Rainey, Baritone from Charleston, sang a solo. The additional singers were some of Helen's parishioners from her time in Charleston, and they made the three-hour trip to Lexington to help celebrate this special day in her life. After the Installation service, there was a lovely reception in our downstairs hall, which had been transformed for the occasion.

Now fall is imminent, and our choir will be returning to sing during the 11:00 a.m. services on September 9. I would like to offer thanks to the cantors who sang during the summer, and to Dr. Ron Pen (organ) and Peggy Oakes (piano) for providing music for four of our recent services. We are

fortunate to have accomplished musicians who are willing to share their talents!

In our upcoming worship services during the month of September, there will be a special focus on God's creation, specifically earth, humanity, mountains, and sky, culminating in an observance of St. Francis Day. The music will attempt to highlight these gifts as well as our role as stewards. So watch for some visual (and aural) aids as we reflect on our Christian responsibility and commitment to the world around us.

Last of all, we are losing two of our faithful choir members this semester: Amy Smereck (going to England) and Thomas Bollinger (going to Kenyon College in Ohio)! If you love to sing and would like to learn new and beautiful music, please come join us at our first rehearsal of the season, Thursday, September 6, at 7:15 p.m. On Sunday morning, September 9, we will warm up at 10:00 a.m. for the 11:00 a.m. service.

Best wishes for these remaining days of summer. I'm looking forward to my return to the organ on September 2, and especially to the return of our choir the following week.

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The Herald is a monthly publication of St. Raphael the Archangel Episcopal Church, 1891 Parkers Mill Road, Lexington, KY 40504. Phone 859.255.4987. Our newsletter is mailed or e-mailed free of charge to approximately 250 members and friends. If you have someone whom you would like to receive a copy of the newsletter, please notify the Church Office and have them added to the list of friends.

Articles and news information for September must be submitted by **Friday, Sept. 21, 2018** to Dana Berry at danabruceberry@gmail.com

Sunday Services

8:30 am Holy Eucharist (Rite I)

Nursery provided from 10:45am to 12:15pm

service for children: infant to 2nd grade

11am Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Wednesday

10:30 am Book Club & Cookies

12 Noon Holy Eucharist with Unction

6:30 pm Evening Prayer with Unction (healing prayers)