

October 2009

ECHO

Newsletter of the
Washington Church of the New Jerusalem

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### **From the Pastor**

Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure this month to introduce the 12 members of the new Pastor's Council for the Washington New Church.

There are six men and six women representing a wide range of ages, backgrounds, family groups and points of view. All of them are active members of the congregation. I'd like to thank them all for their willingness to serve – some for 1 year, some for 2 and some for 3 (allowing for 4 new members every year).

They are:

|             |                   |                 |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Ryan Allen  | Beata Kinsey      | Catharine Smith |
| Greg Baltz  | John Kern         | Lincoln Smith   |
| Diana Hyatt | Sharon Kunkle     | Paige Sweeney   |
| Brad Johns  | Dorothy Radcliffe | Phil Zuber      |

All Council members have received a copy of a “job description” showing how I hope this group will function. And since it involves all of you, please note that this is also posted on the bulletin board near the entrance to the society supper room.

As you see there are some very dedicated people who were not selected this time – only because they are already heavily involved with other important boards or committees. The idea here is to share the load and also broaden the perspective on the council.

Finally, here is a partial list of the topics to be considered at this month’s meeting on Thursday, the 15<sup>th</sup>. A complete list will be posted on the bulletin board closer to that date. The list is being published in the interest of transparency and accountability, but do please remember, it is a council, not a legislative group.

Besides any topics YOU might like to add, I now have the following:

- [ ] Holy Supper, including possible evening services
- [ ] Family Services – various questions, ideas & suggestions
- [ ] Festival Services – ideas, concerns, scheduling, etc.
- [ ] The Youth Group & the Sunday School
- [ ] Idea for awnings over church & school entrances
- [ ] Property issues – a priority list for the Board?
- [ ] Adult Groups and Classes outside of Mitchellville
- [ ] Outreach & advertising: any sensitivities or concerns?

Speaking of this last item, it gives me great pleasure also to announce the members of our new outreach committee. They are:

|                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| John Croft      | Bill Radcliffe    |
| Michael Ferrell | Charles Radcliffe |
| Curtis Moore    | Becca Smith       |
| Candy Quintero  | Wystan Simons     |

For those who don't know him yet, Curtis Moore is one of our "new" school parents. He is in real estate investments and knows a great deal about advertising and marketing. I'm especially grateful to him for being willing to serve on this committee with the others who all have a special interest in this work.

Our first meeting will be on Tuesday night, October 13<sup>th</sup>, and we are in the process now of working up a new mandate for the committee as well as an agenda for that meeting.

Please note, whereas this committee over the last few years has dedicated most of its efforts toward promoting the school, we will be putting a new emphasis on church publicity this year, including possible advertising of our church website (which is currently undergoing major revisions), and we will be considering best practices for welcoming visitors to our services and programs.

Sermons by e-mail and LARGE PRINT. For those who may be interested my sermons are almost always fully written and available in either of these forms as well as the regular printed versions. If you would like to get any of the above please e-mail me any time at [mdgladish@gmail.com](mailto:mdgladish@gmail.com) or just call the church office and let us know.

And now, as they used to say, "A word from our Sponsor." It may interest you (as it did me) that in our faculty study recently at WNCS we had occasion to review the teachings about the influx and correspondence of internal, spiritual things with the external things we glean through our bodily senses. Key teachings are in the Arcana Caelestia. 1495, 5118 and 5145.

The teaching is that Celestial things flow down into Spiritual things, these into Rational things, and these in turn into knowledge and affections. But if the appropriate knowledge and affections are not provided as vessels to contain that influx it all flows right through us, as water flows through a sieve. Or it is corrupted by things that argue against it. This is why New Church Education is so important. It is ALSO why it really does matter what we watch on TV, what we read, what we hear and talk about, and what we do.

Influx is according to reception. It also precisely conforms to the receiving vessel. So – you put clean water into a dirty glass and guess what: you get dirty water. You put it into a clean glass and you get a refreshing, healthful drink. The glass is the mind. The mind is the repository of all the experiences we gather in, especially those we gather in deliberately, with delight. And the water is “the water of life” flowing out of heaven from the Lord.

Have a wonderful fall season – and be careful on Hallowe’en.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Gladish". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Notice:**

The Fall Meeting of the Washington Church of the New Jerusalem will take place on Friday, Nov. 13 at 8:00 PM in the supper room at the church. The purpose of the meeting is to hear the interim reports of the officers, and to take up any other business which shall properly come before the meeting.

Sharon Cooper Secretary

### Sermon Topics for October

4<sup>th</sup> **Evangelization** – what it is and what it is NOT: a fresh perspective from the doctrines of the New Church. This sacred work is often misunderstood, but seen in spiritual light it is inspirational and deeply, inwardly rewarding. - MDG

11<sup>th</sup> **Doing the Impossible.** Is it true that God never gives us more than we can handle? And how is this different from saying, “with God all things are possible”? - MDG

18<sup>th</sup> FAMILY SERVICE: **The Parable of the Wheat & Tares** (Matt13). Why let them grow together? What is this really teaching us about our lives today? Come and see. - MEF

18<sup>th</sup> TRADITIONAL: **Sowing in Tears & Reaping in Joy** (Psalm 126:5). This powerful image in the Word is filled with meaning for our daily lives. Come and see how. - RDS

25<sup>th</sup> **The Parable of the Sower.** Today we’ll take a fresh look at an old story, explaining the **progression** and **use** of all four states represented in the parable. You may be surprised and inspired by what you learn (Matthew 13). - MDG

Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> **War & Peace.** In a world filled with conflict (Gen. 6:11 & Jer. 6:14) why did the Lord say, “I did not come to bring peace but a sword”? (Matthew 10: 34). - MEF

### From the Assistant

The Lord’s Word in the Heavenly Doctrine tells us about bees and “their knowing how to collect wax from roses and blossoms, to suck out honey, to build cells like little houses, to arrange them like a city, with streets for going in and out” (TCR 12: 7). The Lord reveals more to us about birds, reptiles, fishes, insects, creatures and all kinds of animals. They are born into knowledge relating “to nutrition, to their habitations, to sexual love and procreation, and all things pertaining to the rearing of their offspring” (TCR 48:9).

A few weeks ago I noticed when leaving for work and upon returning home in the evening that there were small openings (about the size of a half dollar) in the beauty bark that I had so laboriously put down last spring. My first impression was that someone had walked across the bark or otherwise disturbed the neat layers of it. I ruled this out because the openings were randomly scattered. They did not form a pattern like footprints would have if someone had walked across the bark. So, I'd stoop down and with my hand gently level the bark so it was once again nice and smooth.

Then one day as I stood in the living room, I looked through the window blinds and saw a frisky, little squirrel playing in the yard next door. This little squirrel ran up the tree in the yard, back down a few moments later, then he'd run across the yard like a flash of lightning, the way squirrels do, and out of my sight. Moments later he returned repeating his run then back into our yard toward the area where I had laid the beauty bark. I moved closer to the window so I could see much better. No squirrel; he's out of sight. I went outside to investigate. There were small openings in the bark. Ah ha! I discovered the culprit!

After some consideration I realized my little squirrel friend was busy burying acorns. He was diligently preparing for the upcoming winter. For this little squirrel, it was his time of harvest. It was his time of preparation.

My point in mentioning all this is that unlike animals, we are not born into the order of our loves. So the Lord needs to bring us into order or rearrange our loves, our thoughts, and the life we live. We know that the Lord's objective in creation is an angelic heaven from people. Because we are born without knowledge we must allow the Lord to teach us. As we learn about the Lord, heaven, what good is, what evil is, we must continue imploring the Lord's help to flee away from evils. We must continue seeking the Lord's help to prevent sin from influencing the way we think and live.

I'd like to encourage all to participate with the Lord in this preparation for heaven by learning His truths and living a good life. Like that little squirrel gathering and storing acorns, let's do

our part - open ourselves to the Lord and receive His loves and truths.

Let's all take a moment to reflect upon the Lord's love for not only us but everyone and everything in the whole world. Listen to the Lord speaking to us:

“Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap, which have neither storehouse nor barn; and God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds?” (Luke 12: 24).



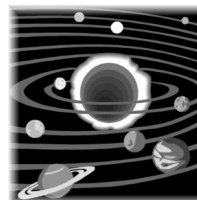
### Friday Classes for October

2<sup>nd</sup> **The Use of Self-Examination.** When, how and why should we do this? How much can we really know about ourselves, anyway, and how can we know it? - MEF

16<sup>th</sup> **How to See the Spiritual Sense of the Word.** There's more to it than you might think. Come and learn the three critical tools you need to uncover the spiritual sense. - RDS

23<sup>rd</sup> **Religious Rites & Rituals.** A follow-up on September's classes about Baptism & the Holy Supper, this one is about the use and certain particulars of other church rituals, like confirmation, marriage, memorial services and. Come and see why ritual is like the furniture in your house, or like a ship's keel. MDG

30<sup>th</sup> **The State of Young People Today.** What do the doctrines say about the states of young people and how can this help us work effectively with them? - RDS (he himself being one!)



**Astronomy Lecture:** Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM right here at the church. Chuck Quintero (our own JPL Ambassador) has some

new pictures and information on Mars. You don't want to miss it!

**Notes from the Board of Trustees Meeting on Sept 1, 2009.**

- Trustees in attendance were Steve Ball, Andy Cooper, Sharon Cooper, Brent Hyatt, Keith Hyatt, Wynne Hyatt, and Dean Smith. Also in attendance were Rev. Mike Gladish, Rev. Michael Ferrell, and Acting Principal Kathy Johns.
- Rev. Gladish gave a Pastor's report, including a discussion of the Capital Campaign kickoff. He indicated that the Washington Society would initiate the Campaign on Oct 4, although the General Church kick-off is Sept 13. Rev. Gladish also discussed his plans to work with Rev. Ferrell to re-energize the evangelization efforts for both the Church and School.
- Keith Hyatt presented a Treasurer's report, stating that we finished Fiscal Year 2008-2009 with a loss of \$48,000 – our first loss in 5 years.
- Kathy Johns presented a report on the School, noting that we have 46 students this year. She reported that the new security system is up and running, and that the Staff is due for a refresher on the Child Protection Policy, as well as training for our two new Staff members.
- Steve Ball reported that the Governance committee would meet the following week, with a draft of proposed by-law changes out for review soon thereafter.
- Brent Hyatt noted that he is looking for comments on the Strategic plan, both detailed comments and thoughts on what parts of it should be included in our Capital Campaign information.
- Rev. Ferrell and Rev. Gladish reported on Promotions and Outreach, noting that the committee would be refreshed, and that the website will be updated regularly, with several volunteers working on the content.

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:38.

*Next Trustees Meeting October 6 at 8pm at the Church.*

### **From the School**

WNCS is off to a great start for the 2009-2010 school year. Our total enrollment is at 46 students. Two students are enrolled in our new Junior Kindergarten program, but we have room for at least six more. Our kindergarten admissions are still open, so please spread the word, and talk us up to any interested parents.



Our annual Parent Night was held on September 18. It was well attended by new and old parents. Carole Waelchli explained our unique New Church spiraling science curriculum. We teach from generals to particulars always highlighting the purpose for the Lord's creation as our foundation for developing scientific knowledge. In preparation for the parents we had the children illustrate the reasons they like WNCS. If you have a chance, take a look. They are posted by our mosaic seal in the supper room.

In October WNCS will be closed for the Charter Day celebration at the Academy of the New Church in Bryn Athyn. We close at NOON on Thursday, October 8, remain closed all day Friday, and will be back to school on Monday, October 12, 2009. We will observe Halloween at the school on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Students may bring appropriate costumes to change into for the party in the afternoon. Remember to set your clocks back on the 31<sup>st</sup> and enjoy the extra hour of sleep.

### **From the Sunday School Head:**

We are off to another busy year with Sunday School. I wanted to remind everyone of the different age groups, which are as follows:

*Primary – Age 4 through 6*

*Intermediate – Age 7 through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade*

*Advanced – Grades 4 through 6*

### *Senior – Grades 7 and 8*

This year we have a very active Senior group, who are planning many charitable and community service activities. We would like to invite the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders to join in, if their parents feel this is appropriate (traditionally this age group stays for the Sermon, and they are still encouraged to do so when there is no special activity). Please direct questions or suggestions about this to Jeff or Beata Kinsey.

As always, I welcome any new ideas, supplies, project ideas, etc for the Sunday School – including feedback you hear from your children! I would also love to hear from you if you decide that it is your time to try your hand at teaching/supervising a Sunday School classroom.

Thanks for your support,

Sharon Croft Cooper [croft.cooper@verizon.net](mailto:croft.cooper@verizon.net)

### ***The General Church Capital Campaign***

It is never easy to talk about giving to the church. It's a very personal thing. But it is important. And for those who can participate there is a wonderful opportunity being presented by the General Church to help us raise significant dollars to reach our goals here in Washington.

You have already read about this in “The New Tribune.” You may also read about it in a special mailing from the General Church in Bryn Athyn. NOW you can hear about it straight from the source, as we will be hosting a special guest from the GC administration next Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, to outline the program for us and to answer all of our questions (after the 11 am service).

Please make a note to attend that day if you possibly can. Meanwhile you can get a lot of information about this online at [www.ourownacademy.org](http://www.ourownacademy.org), the newly revised alumni website, under the heading <capital campaign>. There you will see how matching funds from GC endowments can **double your money** when you give for local developments geared toward growth.

## **Announcements**

**Civil War Trip Fund-raiser:** The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades are selling items through October from the Uncle Jerry's T's catalogue in order to raise funds for their upcoming Civil War Field trip. We hope to raise approximately \$100 for each student for our visits to Gettysburg, Antietam and Harper's Ferry. If you would like to support us and place an order, please see a class member or Mrs. Johns for information and a catalogue. Samples can be found on the bulletin board in the supper room. Thank you for your support of this educational trip.



**ST. Matthew's Craft Fair:** We will again this year be hosting a table of Washington society crafts and goodies at the St. Matthew's Craft Show **Saturday, November 7th**. Please consider donating craft or food items to the sale: Handmade ornaments, silk flower arrangements, jams, jellies and pickles... or any craft specialty. Our coordinator this year is Amanda Hyatt. Please contact her (aghyatt@verizon.net) with questions or donations.

**New Phone #:** FYI – Dean and Cathy Smith have a new cell phone. Please make a note of this new number: 301-801-0422

**New Address:** Isaac Smith and his bride Brynna Carswell will be living in Boston. This is their new address: 31 Bowdoin St, Apt 3, Boston, MA 02114. Skype internet phone: 1-617-849-9220

**Scholastic Book Fair:** Sharon Cooper will again run the Scholastic Book Fair here at the church and school. The book fair will run from Friday afternoon November 6 through church on Sunday November 8<sup>th</sup>. Children's books of all sorts will be for sale at a very reasonable price. A percentage of the sales go to the school. Depending on the quantity of books sold, the school also receives additional points or book cash toward purchasing books for our own library. This has always been a very successful book fair. Come and purchase some early Christmas presents.

**Volleyball:** Those of us who braved the 90 plus degree Washington heat this summer playing volleyball can now play in the AC at the Glenn Dale Recreation center (11901 Glenn Dale Blvd Glenn Dale, MD) every Thursday evening from 8:30-9:45 pm. Questions? Call Bonnie 301-465-5602 or email- secretarywncs@comcast.net.



**Come join us!**

**2010 ECHO Phone Directory:** It's already that time again... Or should I say, it's about time! Last year's directory is incredibly out of date. A new addition is much needed....so, I am pleading with you all to send me any changes, corrections and additions to last year's (purple) directory, *even if you think you have already given them to me*. I am happy to put in cell #s, Fax #s and e-mail addresses. You can e-mail ([secretarywncs@comcast.net](mailto:secretarywncs@comcast.net)), call (301-464-5602), or bring your changes to me at the church. Thanks! - Bonnie



**Financial Appointments:** In light of the recent restructuring of several General Church administrative functions to help redistribute the Bishop's direct responsibilities, there was a need to delegate and reallocate the financial duties. All Treasurer functions, previously part of the CAO/Treasurer's role, have been redefined under the title of Chief Financial Officer.

After much strategizing, we are happy to announce that we are promoting **Duane Hyatt** from Director of Finance for the Academy to the new role of Chief Financial Officer of the General Church. Duane has worked in a couple of different roles for the Academy Financial Office over the past 15 years, is a CPA and comes with an extremely strong accounting background. Prior to coming to the Academy, Duane worked in public accounting for national, regional and local CPA firms, and served as Treasurer of the Washington congregation. Duane is fully capable of leading the financial responsibilities of the Church and we look forward to benefiting from his professional experience.

- David O. Frazier & Daniel T. Allen -



**Theta Alpha International Luncheon: Ladies, mark your calendars!** Please join us this Charter Day for the Theta Alpha Luncheon and Program.

**Friday, October 9, 2009, 12:00pm in Heilman Hall, Bryn Athyn, PA.** Join your sisters for a delicious meal and an inspiring program by Vina Parker and the Rev. Barry Halterman on the **ANC Girls School Senior Religion Program.**

For reservations, please call Noelene Rose at the Development Office 267-502-4895 - \$10 adults, \$5 students; send cash or checks only (payable to Theta Alpha International) to Noelene Rose, Box 711, Bryn Athyn, PA, 19009; deadline is noon (Eastern time) on Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, although earlier is always better! If sending payment ahead of time is impossible, you can pay at the door, but please still call for a reservation. *We hope to see you there!*

## NEWS NOTES

*Preparing our vessels* seems to be a theme running through this Echo. Our pastor speaks of the vessel of the mind and how important it is for it to be suitable to hold the love and truths from the Lord. Rev. Ferrell spoke of working with the Lord to put our vessel back into the order of creation, like that little squirrel who knows just how and where to store winter's food supply. So much of what we do here from the charitable work our Senior Sunday School children are embarking on to participating in the General Church's Capital campaign, can prepare us, our children, our institutions, our bodies and our minds to be solid receivers of the Lord.

With that in mind, let's begin with "Where are all our College Students?" – A question posed last Echo.

*Away at School:* What a huge group of young people we have off preparing their minds - **Alex Ball** is in his second year at the University of Pennsylvania, **Emily Ball** is attending at Bryn Athyn College (BACNC) as is **Ethan Cooper, Ben Glenn, Kristen Maxwell, Jessica & Karla Hyatt.** **Cathlin Hyatt** is attending the University of Maryland as is **Bryan Kunkle.** **Stefanie Quintero** is in her third year at McDaniel College and **Emily Quintero**

began her first year at Savanna College of Art and Design in Georgia. Now in their senior year - **Michelle Bond** at Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, VA.; **Kira Zuber**, St. Mary's, **Joram Smith** Air Force Academy in Colorado. (Joram, by the way, recently became engaged to Katelyn Hunter, from Minnesota who is in his class at the USAFA. An October 2010 wedding is planned, and will take place in the Air Force Chapel in Colorado). **Lisa Bond** is still enrolled in a graduate program at Oxford University in England. Hope you all fill your vessels with great stuff!

**Speaking of School**, WNCS began its 40<sup>th</sup> year with 46 students from Jr. K – 10<sup>th</sup> grade.

**A different kind of R & R** for Phil and Janna Zuber as they have traveled to Germany to visit with son Devin and family.

On account of their trip **Greta Davidson** (who had been here vacationing) is staying on longer than planned with (Janet (Nini) Doering's daughter). With Phil and Janna away, **David & Barbara Doering** were to come here and care for Nini. Sadly, David was hospitalized before he even arrived and is gravely ill having a diagnosis of stage 4 cancer. All of our thoughts and prayers are with David and Barbara at this most difficult time.

Lucky for us, we have had this extended visit from Greta. It has been so nice to have her at Friday class and to see her hiking about Acton Park.

Also traveling, the **Bill Kunkle family** took a long weekend to Acadia National Park in Maine to reconnect with one another one year from the passing of Bill's brother Matt.

We have had a long term visitor. **Welcome to Ronald Schnarr (Ron/Ronnie)**, a candidate for the ministry of the New Church who will be here for most of the time until Thanksgiving preaching, teaching, visiting and generally getting familiar with the workings of our congregation as part of his final year's training before he is ordained. Ron will be staying with several different families during his visit, beginning with George & Mary Cooper for two weeks and then moving to James & Jeanette Roscoe's.

**Several of our women** were away the last weekend of September to rest and contemplate something more ethereal than the often stressful life of a wife and/or mother. Wystan Simons (hosting at her cabin in the Poconos), Ginny Gladish, Becca Smith, Janet Ferrell, Heather Radcliffe, Deena Odhner & no doubt others enjoyed their R & R as we put this ECHO together.

**We've had a few people go in for "repair" of their earthly vessels.** George Cooper has been seen walking without a cane now after only a short time recovering from hip surgery.

Our friend **Jack Pell** (Brett Pell's grandfather) is currently hospitalized having undergone knee surgery. Our wish is for a speedy recovery!

**We wish "God Speed"** to Aaron Smith and Nathan Smith who will be leaving this month for training leading up to deployment to Iraq.

**On a lighter note** Jeannette hosted a lovely wedding shower for Brenna Carswell – soon to be Mrs. Isaac Smith.

**In the caring for the natural stuff department,** many thanks to Lincoln, Becca & Sohaila Smith & Ian Lee for tilling, mulching and seeding the bare lawn next to the Nave, and to Ryan Allen, Dave Cowley, Candy Quintero & Monica Hyatt for the work done refurbishing the green shed at the work party on September 19th. If you missed all the fun, there is still more work to be done. Please call and donate just a little of your time. Many, many things need to be cared for inside and outside the building.

*(PS: Pastor's note: Thanks also to Bonnie, our editor and secretary extraordinaire, for all her wok on the shed- and countless other "overtime" projects this last month.)*

## *October Anniversaries*

*“Conjugal love comes to those who look to the Lord and love the truths of His church, and do the good things it teaches.”*

*(Conjugal Love 458)*



*Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> ~ Eric & Suzanne Genzlinger ~ 13 yrs.*

*Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> ~ Brent & Laura Gurney ~ 18 yrs.*

*Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> ~ Pat & Paige Sweeney ~ 16 yrs.*

*Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> ~ Eugene & Nancy Cole ~ 13 yrs.*

