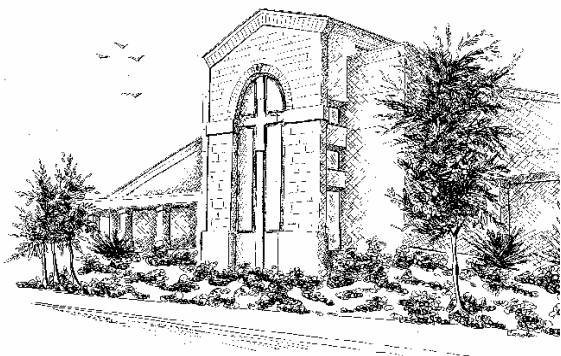


ST. WILFRID'S CLARION



History Day reveals treasures

by Pastor Michael Archer

Just when I thought I knew you. I was beginning to feel really good about this three-year crash course in most things Episcopalian and all things St. Wilfrid's. Then it happened... *History Day*. There is so much you never told me! I see you in a totally different light!

Seriously, I appreciate the time so many people invested in telling the St. Wilfrid's story on Sat., July 14. The Rev. Mort Ward did a marvelous job of facilitating the sharing and helping put significant highs and lows into perspective. Your stories dusted off the display case of what is approaching 50 years of parish life, revealing priceless gems... gems not only of good memories and great celebrations, but gems formed as diamonds are formed—under great pressure. Although it is not possible in this limited space to share all that those four hours revealed, I would like to share a few gems that especially caught my eye.

The Sapphire of Commitment: Custom holds that the sapphire is associated with friendship, loyalty, mutual understanding and indestructible trust. The vision for St. Wilfrid's came first from a group of dedicated women of St. Anne's Guild at St. James Episcopal Church in Newport Beach. Twelve families, many from the U.K., formed the nucleus of St. Wilfrid's, investing their time, treasure and talents to birth a dream. Unusual commitment and even more unusual trust were demonstrated on the part of the early members when homes were mortgaged to pay for the property we now enjoy debt-free.

The Emerald of Community: According to the Vedas, the Hindu scriptures, the emerald contains healing properties, is a promise of good luck, and enhances well being. Many stories demonstrated how important the community life of the parish was from the beginning and how important it continues to be. From car rallies to vestry meetings that ended at "The Bull & Bush" to the birth of a premature baby girl who was "our" baby to the assembling of our beautiful organ... this community of faith has come together
(continued on page 2)

August 2007

Inside this Issue

- 1 Reflections on St. Wilfrid's History Day by Pastor Michael Archer
- 2 VBS invites the community to "Soar to new heights with God"
- 3 Beach Cities Interfaith Services offers hope, assistance
- 4 S.H.I.P. offers job-hunting support; Tanzania trip builds lifetime memories
- 5 Wheelchairs needed for Tanzania
- 6 Golf tournament slated for October; Alzheimer's service called "the best"
- 7 Youth plan garage sale; eScrip raises funds

History Day

(continued from page 1)

over and over again to demonstrate love for one another and dedication to the cause of Christ.

Amethyst of Understanding: Moses describes amethyst as a symbol of the Spirit of God in the official robes of the High Priest, and in some cultures it is said to inspire the intellect. St. Wilfrid's has long been a place where we are challenged to think... and even to examine longstanding customs and convictions. It was eye-opening to learn that the issues surrounding human sexuality that so divide the Anglican Communion today were being confronted, albeit with significant pain, in the early 1980s at St. Wilfrid's. The ongoing dialogue and commitment to prayerfully discern God's truth in forums such as those conducted by Dr. Bill Yarchin in May-June of this year is testimony to our commitment to understanding.

Diamond of Resiliency. The diamond is the hardest of gems and the most difficult to cut or mar. In Greek mythology diamonds are the product of Divine intervention. Clearly, St. Wilfrid's has experienced Divine intervention repeatedly in our nearly half-century. The presence of an out-of-service oil well on the property nearly brought the dream of a new building to a screeching halt. Yet, God brought to this parish the very people who could guide us through that minefield. Despite battles over issues ranging from the ordination of women to the new Prayer Book to the full inclusion of gays and lesbians in the life of the church, this parish has stood resiliently and has continued to reflect the light of Christ in all His radiance.

Yes, St. Wilfrid's. I see you in a different light since History Day... and might I say you're looking GOOD!

Together in the service of Christ,

Michael Archer
Senior Pastoral Associate

'Soar to new heights' at Vacation Bible School 2007

Teach me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul." (Psalm 143:8b)

"Soaring to new heights with God" is our theme for this year's Vacation Bible School. You won't want to miss it, as there will be something for everyone.

When: August 6-10
Time: 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Where: St. Wilfrid's

We'll gather at the *Hangar*, also known as Sacquety Hall, for a home-cooked meal prepared by Chefs Dave Shiffer and Monica Martin and their dedicated crew of volunteers. Following dinner, the children will have an opportunity to engage in an art project in the courtyard, under the guidance of Marcia Cray. Then we'll gather for some after-dinner entertainment which has become a hallmark of St. Wilfrid's VBS programs. This year, Frank Rood, Marcia Cray, Gretchen Hughes, Rocky the Squirrel and others will help us learn something about angels and icons.

From about 6:45 until 7:45, our educational sessions take place. We have many dedicated volunteers leading our sessions. Our program for adults, youth and children will follow the same themes and scriptures:

Taking Flight by:

- Following (Gen. 12-21, Abraham and Sarah);
- Trusting (Gen. 37-45, Joseph);
- Listening (Luke 10: 38-42, Mary and Martha);
- Repenting (Luke 19: 1-10, Zacchaeus);
- Serving (John 21: 1-19, Peter's post-Resurrection call to serve).

Adults will journey with these men and women of the Bible, looking at how they lifted their hearts to God and how we can do the same, learning from their experiences. Middle and high school youth will use hot air balloons as a metaphor, exploring ways to rise above a broken world and let the Spirit's wind guide their way. The children, pre-school through grade 6, will travel on a Bible adventure learning to follow, trust and serve God. Each evening the children will draw, build, and create.

(continued on page 3)

Vacation Bible School offers something for everyone

(continued from page 2)

We will conclude each evening with everyone gathering again at the *Hangar* for an old-fashioned songfest, led by Jim Cubbin, and Kelly Beitler. We will make a joyful noise with lots of familiar songs and a few new ones too.

There is no cost to attend St. Wilfrid's VBS. T-shirts are available for \$10 and donations are gladly accepted for our wonderful dinners (\$5 per person or \$10 per family suggested). Call Rev. Christy Dorn or Sharan Mercer to register (714-962-7512) or plan to register Sunday morning in the courtyard (look for the balloon table).

Join us for study, prayer, songs, fun, games and wonderful St. Wilfrid's community. We hope that VBS week will be one of inclusiveness where everyone can discover God's love and where all of God's children can deepen their relationship with our Lord.

BCIS helps clients rebuild their lives

Beach Cities Interfaith Services' (BCIS) new intensive case management program, "One Step Forward," is off to a great start. Participating clients are required to develop a personal goal which will help them increase their quality of life or level of independence.

Clients' level of functioning is assessed, including an evaluation of the client's housing status which could range from homelessness to maintaining his own home for three months. During the first month of the program, two women transitioned from homelessness to successful employment.

The first woman, "Jan," has been a BCIS client for several years. Through her determination, BCIS case management services and everyone's encouragement, Jan has made dramatic changes in her life. She has struggled with homelessness for a long period and

moved between living with friends and abusive men to prevent living in her car. Due to lack of housing, her teenage son returned to live with her prior partner who had been abusive. With support of BCIS, Jan obtained part-time employment. She applied for and was accepted into a transitional housing program. This program required that she not work nights so that she could attend training programs. She was able to find full-time office employment. She moved into a new apartment and her son returned to live with her. Several months ago she followed through with a recommendation to obtain medical treatment for ADHD. The medication she received has greatly increased her ability to focus and follow through with goals. This month, BCIS gave her a Target gift card to help her buy needed items for her new home and job. BCIS also gave her \$100 to pay half of her DMV registration. Without her car, both her job and housing would be jeopardized. She will repay this loan at a rate of \$20 per paycheck.

The second woman, "Pat," recently began coming to BCIS daily to pick up lunches for herself and her children. Pat had fled another state to avoid an abusive partner. In the last six weeks, BCIS helped Pat with a variety of resources. She was given gift cards to purchase interview clothing and funds to buy black pants required for her new job at a local grocery store. Gasoline cards were given to allow her to drive to interviews and her new job. A referral to Colette's House resulted in acceptance to their transitional housing program. Pat has been so successful in her job that she is now being trained as an assistant manager.

As BCIS services have expanded, particularly in having a paid social worker, BCIS can now provide long-term case management support that is truly changing lives, in addition to providing for immediate food and clothing needs.

Is it you?

There is someone out there who recognizes the beauty and peace that flowers bring to the church service, and who likes to organize and work with people. Our longtime coordinator has moved. If you feel a calling to coordinate the work of the Flower Guild, please speak to Cathie at the church office (714) 962-7512 or a member of the Guild.

"...for the flowers are peculiarly the poetry of Christ."

Christopher Smart 1722 -1771

S.H.I.P. offers job-seeking support

The Self Help Interfaith Program (S.H.I.P.) is a ministry to homeless people in Orange County. S.H.I.P.'s guests are men and women who are able and ready to find employment as a crucial first step in rebuilding their lives.

To remove some of the barriers that prevent people on the street from finding a job, S.H.I.P. offers guests a place to clean up, clothing suitable for interviews, help with resumes, an address where they can receive mail and a phone number (with voice mail) where a prospective employer can respond to a job application. By providing meals and a place to stay, S.H.I.P. gives its guests an opportunity to save for rent and other expenses once they are on their own.

As needed, S.H.I.P. volunteers also help guests develop skills for budgeting and responsibly dealing with pre-existing debt. S.H.I.P. is able to offer these services by partnering with churches in Central and West Orange County, whose congregations take turns providing shelter and food for the guests while they look for jobs and begin working again.

During S.H.I.P.'s visit to St. Wilfrid's in June, three guests took significant steps in getting back on their feet. One guest found employment during her stay with us. Two others (one of whom has since successfully completed the program, "graduating" in late June) continued to hold down jobs they had found before arriving at the church. Each guest remarked on the warmth of St. Wilfrid's welcome, and expressed appreciation for the support and kindness they found here. Thanks to everyone in the parish who gave their time (and culinary skills) to look after S.H.I.P.'s – and St. Wilfrid's – guests!

S.H.I.P. makes a place where God changes people's lives, and St. Wilfrid's will be a part of that again this fall for two weeks (September 29 to October 13). Beginning on September 9, there will be a S.H.I.P. table in the courtyard each Sunday (from before the 8:45 a.m. service until after the 11:00 a.m. service). Please stop by to find out more about this ministry and to sign up to help during S.H.I.P.'s upcoming visit.

As during past S.H.I.P. stays, we need people willing to provide a dinner (or part of a dinner) for the guests,

as well as people able to stay overnight with the guests or for part of the day on weekends. Donations, especially clothing, and paper goods and other supplies for the guests during their stay, are also welcome.

To learn more about the S.H.I.P. program before September, please visit S.H.I.P.'s website (www.shipinoc.org) or contact Don Dorsett (714-397-0947)

Tanzania mission— memories to last a lifetime

by Derek Wimmer

On last year's St Wilfrid's Tanzania trip, we experienced an overwhelming array of emotions. We felt heartbreak, great sorrow, an overwhelming sense of our inadequacy to address the challenges and even anger at some of the things we heard. We also experienced the Holy Spirit moving in that place. We met incredible people who have given their lives to God's work there—people who are true examples of God lifting people to do his work. I could go on and on.

But I want to focus on the incredible hospitality, generosity and warmth of the people we met—people who have virtually nothing, barely a subsistence living. We came to a country where many areas had not seen rain for five years. People were starving, animals were dying and children were malnourished. Many women walked from four to eight hours every day just to get a bucket of water that they carried home for basic cooking needs and perhaps a little for their families to drink.

Let me tell you about a family we were all privileged to meet. Toledo and Melegi are Masai brothers whom Cheryl Kyle has known for many years and whom she has helped with education and in many other ways. Their family compound, Boma in Swahili, is about 20 miles outside Arusha in an incredibly remote, dusty and desolate place. It had no water and virtually no way to get there except by 4-wheel drive truck which is prohibitively expensive—impossible without outside help.

(continued on page 5)

Tanzania visit changes parishioners' lives

(continued from page 4)

We were met by the entire village and warmly welcomed. We were invited to come to their huts and we saw how desperate their lives were. We saw painfully thin people, animals that seemed to be no more than bags of protruding ribs and children with distended bellies—the telltale sign of severe malnutrition.

And we sat with them and communicated as best we could. And we gave gifts from St. Wilfrid's—simple toys for the children, a foam mattress for the oldest woman in the village. And then in what we came to experience many times, we were invited to eat with them. First they came with a large teapot of hot water so we could wash our hands—water so precious to them—water they needed for drinking. And then they served the food. They had slaughtered a goat for us. A goat that was one or the few livestock left. And they did so with overwhelming warmth and grace. Whereas we gave to them from our abundance, they truly gave to us from their basic subsistence. And we were all humbled and blessed by them.

Later, we spent three days at a Bible school that a year before had 100 students but then had only 25. Why, you may ask? Most of the young men had to return to their villages to hunt for animals so their families would not starve. Many young women had to leave because without scholarships, there simply was no money for board and tuition. But those who were there had such joy in their hearts and in their worship and their singing. The Holy Spirit shone through them. We were all inspired.

And that leads me to tell you about a young woman, 20 years old, named Kulwa. I met her entirely by chance as I helped with her computer skills and English. I probably spent no more than a few hours with her on our first day there. Kulwa earned her keep by doing laundry and cleaning the guest house and school. She is hundreds of kilometers from home. The day after we worked together, she came looking for me and asked if she could have my address as she wanted to write me. I said of course and encouraged her to do so. About an hour later she found me again and gave me a well-worn photograph of her with her twin sister Dotto

whom she had not seen for nearly a year. It was the only personal thing she had from home and she insisted on giving it to me.

I was probably more touched at that moment than I had been in years. Talk about giving from the heart! Talk about sacrifice! And today Kulwa and her sister are both doing well. Kulwa is studying to be a nursery school teacher and Dotto is going to nursing school.

And these are just two of many examples of hospitality and kindness and incredible generosity that we received throughout the mission – things we will never forget and examples to us all.

Next January another mission is being planned. Yes, there will be a chance to see some of the finest wildlife in Africa, but far more important will be the people you will meet, the lives you can touch and the opportunity to worship and sing and see the power of the Holy Spirit at work in a place that has so little, but from which we can all learn so much. If you go, I can assure you that your life will never be quite the same. Please contact Cheryl Kyle or Christian and Shannon Kassoff for more information.

Help provide wheelchairs for Tanzania

by Cheryl Kyle

Can you possibly imagine the feeling of a person living in the bush in rural Tanzania who has never seen the world except from the ground? Can you imagine what a wonderful act of kindness and love it would be to receive a \$50 wheelchair and what a difference it could make in a person's life?

Don Schoendorfer, Free Wheelchair Mission Founder, conceived the idea on a trip to Morocco years ago. That inspiration led to a brilliantly simple wheelchair made from a plastic yard chair, a simple steel frame connected to mountain bike tires and wheels.

St. Wilfrid's has been part of this mission for two years, sending 42 wheelchairs to bush hospitals in Tanzania. Thanks to parishioner Stefani Salazar, the wheelchairs have been sent at no charge to the Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Tanzania. I receive them during my annual visit to the diocese, and deliver them to the Flying Medical Service. They are then airlifted to the bush hospitals. *(continued on page 6)*

Wheelchairs—a ‘brilliantly simple’ design

(continued from page 5)

St. Wilfrid’s goal is 21 wheelchairs:
Haydom Hospital-10
Wasso Hospital in Loliondo-5
Endulen Hospital in the Ngorongoro Crater area-5
Olkokola Vocational Training School for the
Handicapped-1

Please help us provide 21 wheelchairs for delivery in January. Please make a check payable to St. Wilfrid’s with “Wheelchairs for Tanzania” in the memo.

Golf tournament slated for October

Mark your calendars now for this exciting tournament to be held on October 27, 11 a.m. at David Baker Golf Course in Fountain Valley.

This event is a fund-raiser for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, which is a Sunday Program for children in our parish. Chuck Bartholomew is the contact person (714) 898-9796. Call Chuck to sign up to play, volunteer to help, sponsor a hole, donate prizes, or just talk to Chuck’s answering machine. Plan to participate in this fun day which will also benefit our kids. David Shiffer will prepare a fabulous awards banquet following the tournament. Total cost, including golf, cart and dinner is \$70 per person.

Meet the new editor

The new *Clarion* editor is Jill Gillen McKenna, who has returned to St. Wilfrid’s after a four-year absence. Jill has a BA in journalism from The American University and an MA in English from Chapman University. She is a technical writer/editor with Fluor and a part-time English instructor for Chapman.

In “real life,” Jill lives in Westminster with her 12-year-old percussionist/pianist/Boy Scout/surfer/football player son and a vast assortment of animals, and next door to her mother, IdaMae Gillen. Someday she hopes to master the half-uncial calligraphic hand, play the banjo, and visit Shetland and Orkney.

Join the Greeters!

Once again, the Welcoming and Greeters’ Ministry is inviting all parishioners to combine worship and service at St. Wilfrid’s by becoming active members of our Ministry. Participation involves providing a warm smile, a handshake, a hug or an expression of caring to those who come to our church community. Commitment involves only one Sunday a month for approximately 20 minutes before each service.

As our ministry embraces its success, we need additional hospitable volunteers, particularly at the 7:30 and 11 a.m. services.

If you feel the desire to become a member of our ministry, please contact Leith George or Nancy Davies at 714-960-4299 or see us personally at church.

St. Wilfrid’s Alzheimer’s service deemed ‘the best’

by Paula Hulse

“You’re the best!” This is a direct quote from an Alzheimer’s Association member at the end of another uplifting worship service and luncheon. She said, “Of all the churches who do the Interfaith Worship Service, St. Wilfrid’s is the BEST.” We know what we are supposed to do, and we do it joyfully while treating our guests as family. Fr. Lee said this one was the best attended. The following people made this possible, and I want to acknowledge them for their continued faithfulness in this outreach to the community.

Fr. Lee; Mary Lou Hughes; Carol Spencer and her grandchildren, Mazie and Miles; Dave Shiffer; Carol Collacott; Nancy Siracki; Judy Philpot; Mary Mount; Elsie Rhoads, Cathie Mawhirter; Frank Rood; Marcia Cray; May Breault; and Cynthia Greenan.

Special thanks to Margaret Cubbin who played the piano while in awful pain. At 90 Margaret, will help with the song sheets etc. but has asked Carol Spencer to take over the piano. Margaret, for all the years you have participated in this program thank you for your unselfish service and the stirring music you have played.

Celebration of Wisdom on hiatus until Oct. 20

by Paula Hulse

Hope you are having a restful summer vacation and I pray for your inner peace. We will meet again Oct. 20.

We need to start saving good used household items and clothing for the August 18 rummage sale.

I had a wonderful visit with my 97-year-old father in Texas. He came back from a deep depression and had successful cataract surgery. He can once again watch TV and shave by sight and not by feel. This man is one of God's success stories.

In Texas, I came across the following for people who have trouble with "Thou shalt" and "Thou shalt not."

Ten Commandments, Texas style

- 1) Just one God
- 2) Honor yer Ma & Pa
- 3) No telling tales or gossipin'
- 4) Git yourself to Sunday Meeting
- 5) Put nothin' before God
- 6) No foolin' around with another fellow's gal
- 7) No killin'
- 8) Watch yer mouth
- 9) Don't take what ain't yers
- 10) Don't be hankerin' for yer buddy's stuff

That's kinda plain 'n simple, don't ya think? Y'all have a nice day now, ya hear?

Grocery-card eScrip program raises funds

Remember to register your Vons, Ralphs and Albertsons grocery cards the first Sunday of each month. Cards registered with the eScrip program help raise money for St. Wilfrid's.

Please contact May Breault if you have questions.

Childcare Position Available

St. Wilfrid's needs a part-time childcare provider on Sundays from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. with additional hours as needed. Stipend is \$10 - \$15 per hour based on training and experience. The provider

will provide a nurturing, safe environment for infants and children age 3 and younger, occasionally supervising older children.

We need a mature, dependable adult with ability to handle multi-age groupings of children. Minimum of one year experience, CPR/First Aid certification, early childhood education helpful.

For more information, or to apply, contact The Rev. Christy Dorn at St. Wilfrid's, 714-962-7512. E-mail resume to families@stwilfridschurch.org or mail to St. Wilfrid's at 18631 Chapel Lane, HB, 92646.

A note about St. Wilfrid's Memorial Garden

St. Wilfrid's Memorial Garden provides a place of peace, serenity and beauty in its simplicity. Beginning August 1, only fresh floral remembrances may be placed in the Memorial Garden. The garden will be cleaned regularly and all non-floral items will be removed and discarded along with the spent floral items. If you have placed a non-floral item on or near the marker of a loved one in the garden that you wish to keep, please reclaim it before August 1.

Youth to raise funds with garage sale

St. Wilfrid's youth groups are busily planning for an August 18 garage sale, the proceeds of which will be donated to the Sunday School Heifer project for the youth to purchase one or more goats to send to Tanzania. Money raised will also be given to St. Wilfrid's Mission Trip to Tanzania and other youth projects.

The sale begins at 7 a.m. in the St. Wilfrid's parking lot.

Donations can be dropped off at the youth building.

The youth groups are also planning a trip to Isaiah House in August, and hope to visit a water park before the summer is over.

August 2007

St. Wilfrid's Episcopal Church
18631 Chapel Ln.
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

www.stwilfridschurch.org

Non-Profit Organization
Permit No. 99
U.S. Postage PAID
Huntington Beach, CA

ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL

Worship at St. Wilfrid's

Sundays

Holy Eucharist 7:30 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Christian Education Hour 10:10 a.m.

Childcare 8:45 – noon

Weekdays

Morning Prayer at 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday Morning Eucharist 7:00 a.m.

About the Clarion

The Clarion is a publication of:

St. Wilfrid of York Episcopal Church
18631 Chapel Lane, Huntington Beach CA 92646

Phone: (714) 962-7512

Fax: (714) 962-4538

Preschool Phone: (714) 968-3100

Emergency Pager: (714) 359-9441

Office hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mon - Fri

Website: www.stwilfridschurch.org

Communications: Clarion@stwilfridschurch.org