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Committed to experiencing & sharing the love of Christ

All Saints Servant

February 2010

All Saints, Counseling Center establish St. Lucy's House

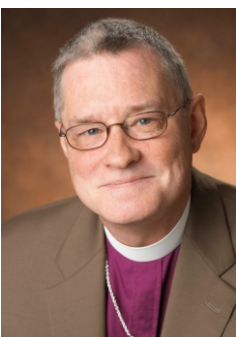
Portsmouth women fighting addictions to drugs and alcohol have a new place to call home, thanks to a partnership of community agencies and All Saints and financial support from the William Cooper Procter Fund. St. Lucy's **Sober House for Women** is a community endeavor to provide safe, sober housing, food, and support so that women in Ohio, especially Scioto, Adams, and Lawrence counties, can receive treatment for their substance use disorders and begin a sober, productive life. For the past 16 years, the Counseling Center, Inc., has provided treatment for substance-use to women through its Stepping Stone House residential

program. Despite the continued growth of the program, 50-60 women – half of whom are mothers – remained on waiting lists to receive treatment. With the addition of the Sober House for Women, the Counseling Center will be able to provide intensive outpatient treatment and supportive recovery services, including primary health care and case management for an additional 40 to 50 women per year. All Saints has made a commitment to the recovering community. Numerous recovery groups meet at the church, including one of the oldest continuing Alcoholics Anonymous meetings in the state. The church also has hosted Recovery

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Jay Hash, a member of the vestry and head of the Counseling Center's Marsh House, stands with the Rev. Jeff Queen. Jay has been a driving force in bringing St. Lucy's to fruition, applying for numerous grants. St. Lucy's recently received grants from Episcopal Community Services Foundation and Episcopal Appalachian Ministries.



The Bishop is coming

Bishop Thomas E. Breidenthal will preach and celebrate with the people of All Saints at the 11 a.m. service on Feb. 7. This is part of the bishop's regular visitation of the congregations of the diocese. Bishop Breidenthal also will celebrate several confirmations. Be sure to worship with the bishop and his wife, Margaret, and to welcome the newest members of our congregation! The visitation also happens to land on our First Sunday event – the time we've set especially aside with our commitment to attend worship, enjoy a full contingent of acolytes, squeeze into packed pews and share fellowship during an expanded coffee hour. Please plan to bring a dish to share. Information: Shannon Walton at 574.5323.

From the rector:

The Great Fast of Lent is nearly upon us. In a few days, Christians around the globe will kneel before God's altar and receive the imposition of ashes on their foreheads, reminding them of their own mortality and total reliance upon God for life and health. Each of us will make that journey, and, as in years' past, we will pray...

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord...

This prayer is a good reminder for us. It tells us that even in our sinfulness, God's love for us is unchanged. His love goes beyond our understanding in its faithfulness and beyond our capabilities to imitate it in our own lives. And although try as we might to be good enough or caring enough or faithful enough, we often falter, and in the end, all we are left with are ashes on

our foreheads.

I do not wish to sound hopeless or fatalist in these remarks. I do not believe that humanity is without hope, nor do I believe that we are given the OK to wallow in our own sinfulness. Rather, I would draw your attention to one of the great lessons of our Lenten pilgrimage: HUMILITY. For better or worse, all of us share the human tendency to act first out of our own self-interest and self-protection—from the most saintly of us to the most sinful. Knowing this, and coming to terms with the fact can allow us to open our lives to the much needed nurturing of God's mercy and grace. It also can make us less likely to judge our neighbor as harshly because they don't live up to our expectations.

All humanity shares a common need to live in God's grace. Lent shows us that our journey into His mercy and grace takes us down the path that leads to the Cross and Jesus' giving of Himself for us. And in this greatest act of love, humanity is given what it needs most – Grace, given unconditionally to all who seek it.

Thanks be to God for his gift of love and thanks be to Him for giving us more than we desire or deserve.

Jeff+

Of note:

Thanks to: **Karen and Merrill Wood** for sanding the wood work, cleaning and painting the church.

Bonnie Johnson and **Nancy Harness** for coordinating the meal for the annual meeting and to all who stayed to help clean up

Jerry O'Bannion for leading the Celtic spirituality Bible study.

All who helped with St. Nicholas night, including **Fr. Jeff, Tana Beasley, Megan Ketter, Shelly Clifford, Ellen Vetter and Stan Tackett.**

Diana Michael and the Altar Guild for coordinating Hanging of the Greens – and the clean-up!

Welcome: Baby **Jack Eliot Biggs!** **Barb and John Biggs** welcomed their first child, Jack, on Jan. 26.

Morgan Soudijn, our new childcare provider. Morgan is a student at Shawnee State University.

Congratulations: **Stacy and Sydney Spence**, who were baptized on Epiphany.

Annastasia Kathleen Underwood, granddaughter of **Lee and Vicki Daily** and daughter of **Alana and Dennis Underwood**, who was baptized in late January.

The Rev. Dick Schisler, who retired in December, as municipal court judge.

To the congregation: Thank you so much for the kind donation at Christmas. We so appreciated your generosity. We used the gift during our Disney trip – and thought of you all while we enjoyed the sun! It is a blessing to be a part of such a thoughtful congregation. ~ Jeff, Richelle, Madeline and Griffin



Connecting: Marie & Jeff Bradford

This is part of a new series to build relationships and community at All Saints. Want to be featured? Have a suggestion of who should be profiled next? Send ideas to Richelle Thompson at rtompson@diosohio.org

Throughout their marriage, Marie and Jeff Bradford have called many places home. With Jeff serving as career Navy, they have lived in California, Hawaii, Rhode Island, Denver, Washington, Australia, Maine and now Ohio. So what is home? "A place where you feel welcome and wanted," says Marie. That's how the Bradfords came to call All Saints their church home. They started attending last fall, along with their daughter, Kendra, and her daughter, Cadence. The Bradfords also have another daughter, Shannon and her two children, Cory and Aiden. The Bradfords moved to Jackson County in 2005. They were looking for 10-15 acres when they fell in love with

a nearly 200-acre farm. The rolling hills made row-crop farming impossible. The Bradfords settled upon alpaca sheep. They raise the sheep for breeding and shear them for wool. They also have chickens and goats. In addition to farming, Marie enjoys reading historical novels, especially romance. Jeff's mother also lives with the couple and has several medical problems, making it difficult for Jeff to attend church. Marie's hope for All Saints over the next year: Growth and a Sunday School program for children. "Thank you for welcoming me and my family," says Marie.

Page 1: Sober housing for women

Sunday events for several years and offers many outreach programs to the community, including a weekly community meal, health and wellness checks and a community garden.

With the support of All Saints, the Counseling Center applied and received a grant for \$25,000 from the Procter Fund.

"We are so grateful to the Diocese of Southern Ohio for this gift," said Ed Hughes, president and chief executive officer for The Counseling Center. "With the establishment of this sober house, we are saving the lives of women who may not have otherwise received treatment."

The Sober House for Women opened in mid-December. The facility initially will accommodate nine women who want to recover from

their disease of addiction. This funding will provide for residential operating expenses.

Additional grant proposals have been submitted to aid to other organizations with the operations, furnishings, and personal needs of the women receiving treatment.

This will be an ongoing fund-raising project to provide for household and personal needs of the clients as well as the daily operations and maintenance of the property.

How to help:

As part of our support of Sober House, All Saints will provide a meal and eat with the residents (4-7 women) of St. Lucy's on the fourth Monday of each month. Contact: Marie Bradford at 740.288.0780 or marie@harmonyridgefarms.com

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Outreach/Evangelism

~ **St. Paul & Silas Prison ministry:** Letter writing and care packages for local inmates. Contact Donna Russell at 353.8262

~ **Loaves & Fishes:** A meal for the people of Scioto County. All Saints hosts fourth Saturday. Contact: Diana Michael at 353.7919

~ **Meals on Wheels:** Deliver meals to homebound every fourth Friday. Contact: Jack Gee at 354.4626

~ **Recovery ministry:** Five different recovery groups meet at All Saints. Check the church office for times. Contact: Jay Hash for information at 353.6627

~ **Red Cross Blood Drive:** Fourth Tuesday of each month. Contact Bonnie Johnson at 354.6536

~ **Sober House meals:** Serve women of St. Lucy's on fourth Monday. Contact: Marie Bradford at 740.288.0780.

Formation

~ **Worship:** Wednesday evenings; every Sunday at 11 a.m.

~ **Lenten Studies:** See pages 4-5
~ **Café Bible:** Every Wednesday at 7 p.m. (except during Lent)

~ **GodSquad:** For school-age kids, every Wednesday, 3:30-5:30 pm. Contact: Richelle Thompson at 250.3575.

~ **Bible study:** 10 a.m. on Sundays

~ **Music:** Make a joyful noise. Contact: Justin Wiget, 353.7919

Hospitality

~ **First Sundays:** Light lunch and extra fellowship time during coffee hour. Contact: Shannon Walton at 352.5190

~ **Happy Episcopal People:** Want to host an event or have an idea? Contact: Vicki Daily at 353.2212.

~ **Ushers and greeters:** Welcome people to church. Contact: Chip Queen at 961.0589

~ **Altar Guild:** Help prepare for worship. Contact: Diana Michael at 353.7919.

~ **Grounds/Building:** Help keep the Lord's house beautiful. Contact: Karen Wood, junior warden.

A Journey through Lent



What is Lent? Lent is a season of preparation leading up to Easter. The 40-day period, plus the six Sundays before Easter, begins on Ash Wednesday (Feb. 17). For centuries, Lent has been observed as a special time of self-examination and penitence. Lent is a time for concentration on the fundamental values and priorities of the Christian faith. If you have found yourself away from church and wondered about giving it another try, Lent is the perfect time. Throughout Lent, worship services take on a simpler more solemn tone appropriate to this season. At certain times, crosses are veiled. The word "Alleluia" is not used in the liturgy or hymns. These practices help the worshipping community mark this season of renewal as a special time in the church year.

Observing Lent: The custom is to mark the season of Lent by giving up some things and taking on others. Both can serve to mark the season as a holy time of preparation. Some people give up sweets, meat for all or some meals, and/or alcohol. In most cases, giving up something for Lent can be made more meaningful by using the money or time for another purpose. For example, meal times on fast days could be spent in prayer or the extra money could go to Episcopal Relief and Development to help feed the hungry. Some people add things to observe Lent, such as committing to daily Bible reading, fasting on Fridays, times of prayer and/or taking a Bible study.

Lent is also an especially appropriate time for the sacrament of confession. While confession to a priest is not required to receive God's forgiveness, it can be a meaningful rite of reconciliation to God. Confession at All Saints will be offered during Lent a half hour before the Wednesday Eucharist, from 5-5:30 p.m.

Lenten Book study: "The Preaching of the Passion," a book by the Rev. Peter Gomes, minister of the Chapel at Harvard University, will be used as the Lenten Devotional this year. Through a passionate series of essays, Gomes offers a moving look at Jesus' final words from the Cross--examining not the physical horror of Christ's last hours, but instead His dialogue with His Father. Join us on Wednesdays during Lent, beginning Feb. 17 with a simple meal at 5 p.m., follow by Eucharist and study. Books are available through the office.

Special Days and Services

Stations of the Cross: These are depictions of 14 incidents in the Gospel, following Jesus' death from Pilate's house to being placed in the tomb. The stations are used for the service called the Way of the Cross, which visits each station with a brief reading, response, prayer and on some occasions, a meditation. All Saints will offer Stations of the Cross each Friday in Lent at 12:10 p.m., except on Good Friday when the service will be held at 1 p.m.

Shrove Tuesday: This is actually the day before Lent begins. The day is named for the "shriving" or confessing that was traditional before the beginning Lent. This day is also known as Mardi Gras, or "Fat Tuesday," because it was a time for eating the things from which one would abstain during Lent. Pancake suppers are traditional as they were a way of using up some of the ingredients not needed during Lent. All Saints' will have a pancake supper on Feb. 16. This will be a fundraiser for St. Lucy Sober House, and we already have volunteers from Shawnee State to assist with cooking and serving. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends to experience All Saints!



Ash Wednesday: The first day of Lent is marked with a special liturgy. The theme for the day, though not for all of Lent, is that we stand as sinners, condemned to die but for God's grace. This is symbolized by the imposition of ashes on the forehead, with the words, "You are dust and to dust you shall return." In the Old Testament, ashes were a sign of penitence (feeling regretful at offenses) and mourning. Ash Wednesday is one of two days of special observance (the other being Good Friday) for which fasting is required by those Christians whose age and ability allow. While this usually refers going without food during daylight hours, this practice is not practical for all persons, including, but not limited to, diabetics. Use your own discretion in determining how you can best observe this day. Ash Wednesday services will be held on Feb. 17 at 7 a.m., 12:10 p.m., and 5:30 p.m.

Refreshment Sunday: The fourth Sunday of Lent has long been observed as a day for relaxing the disciplines of Lent. It is also known as Mothering Sunday—usually falling close to the feast of the Annunciation—as this was the first Mother's Day in honor of Mary, the Mother of Our Lord, and a traditional time for remembering your mother. This year, Refreshment Sunday will be March 14. There will be a special coffee hour following the service.

Palm Sunday: The last Sunday in Lent, this day commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem with a blessing of palms and a procession in which the whole congregation carries palms. The day also is marked by reading the story of Jesus' passion (the word used to describe Jesus' death comes from "suffering," which is one old meaning of passion). Some of the palms are kept and used to make the Ash Wednesday ashes for the next year. Palm Sunday falls on March 28.

Holy Week (the week leading up to Easter): Portsmouth area churches host noon luncheons during each day of Holy Week. This year these services run from March 29 through April 2. Each day, a devotion is given, and simple lunch is served. Donations are accepted. The service is held at First Christian, on the corner of Third and Gay streets.

Maundy Thursday: This is a time for remembering The Last Supper. The name comes from the Latin "Maundatum" for "commandment" as Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment; that you love one another." This is marked with a service that includes foot washing as an option for those who wish to follow Jesus' example. At the end of this service, altars are stripped of any ornamentation and crosses are removed or veiled to mark the solemnity of the occasion. The service will be at 5:30 p.m. on April 1.

Prayer Vigil: It is the custom of All Saints to have a prayer vigil before the Blessed Sacrament from the end of the service on Maundy Thursday to noon on Good Friday. The vigil takes place in St. Thomas Chapel. The vigil is divided into 30-minute intervals. An overnight security guard will be at the church. A sign up sheet will be posted if you are interested in this special Holy Week devotion.

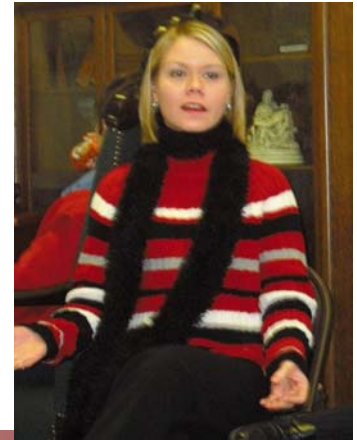
Good Friday: The Friday of Holy Week is a time for remembering Jesus' death. This is the second day of special observance for which fasting is recommended. One should use discretion in decided how best to observe this day. There is no celebration of Communion from Maundy Thursday until the Easter Vigil on late Saturday or early Sunday. Following the Holy Week Luncheon at First Christian, there will be a procession from First Christ Church to All Saints, where the Stations of the Cross will be observed. This will begin at approximately 1:10 p.m., when the procession reaches the Church.

Easter: We will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord with a joyous service, starting at 11 a.m. In addition to the stunning music from the All Saints' choir, the children's choir also will perform. Coffee hour and fellowship time will follow.

Annual meeting ~ Jan. 31, 2010



The people of All Saints used the annual meeting as a time for fellowship, reporting and dreaming. Parishioners received the traditional reports from parish leaders, including statistics, financial matters, maintenance and outreach updates. Fr. Jeff delivered his annual report, beseeching people to let go of fear and to embrace God's call for the ministry and work within All Saints and in our communities. (The full report is available on the website at www.allsaintsportsmouth.us or by calling the office at 353.7919).



The 75 or so parishioners then divided into four groups based on interest: evangelism; outreach; hospitality and formation. The groups spent 20 minutes dreaming about the possibilities for within each area. Several great ideas were generated, and most people committed to continuing the conversation and to be a part of implementing new ideas and projects. If you missed the meeting and want to be a part of these focus groups, contact Fr. Jeff.



Photos: Upper left, Fr. Jeff delivers his annual report. Upper right: Kim Hughes shares her hopes for hospitality. At right, Shannon Walton reviews the annual report.



Parishioners also elected new leadership. Pictured at left, first row, Bonnie Johnson, Mari Grace Smith, both to vestry; Karen Wood, new junior warden; second row, Jack Vetter, vestry; Brian Clifford, convention delegate. Also elected but not pictured, Dr. John Walker, senior warden; and Scott Berry, convention delegate. Gifts of appreciation were offered for the ministry of outgoing vestry members, pictured at right: Jack Harness, Vicki Daily and Merrill Wood.

Creative stewardship opportunity

Shop and do good! Register your Kroger card online at www.krogercommunityrewards.com and select All Saints Episcopal Church as your non-profit. The church will receive a percentage of the amount you spend using your Kroger card. Some churches have raised \$5,000 or more a year with this easy, no-cost, creative stewardship opportunity. Please register your card – or bring it with you on Feb. 14. Laptops will be available for folks to register with assistance. You must have an e-mail address to register. Questions: Mari Grace Smith at 354.2830.

Around the Diocese

Congregational Development Retreat: The Diocese of Southern Ohio is hosting a special congregational development retreat Feb. 19-20 at Procter Camp & Conference Center. All are welcome. The keynote speaker is the Rev. Tom Ehrich, an author, consultant and Episcopal priest. Ehrich directs The Church Wellness Project, which offers insight into building healthy congregations. A regular newsletter offers tips about different aspects of congregational development, and Ehrich's "On a Journey" writings reach a worldwide audience. His newspaper column is syndicated to more than 100 newspapers, and he has served congregations in Indiana, Missouri and North Carolina. The retreat begins with dinner at 6 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 19, followed by worship from 7 to 9 p.m. The retreat reconvenes on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Register online at: www.diosohio.org

Summer camps: Make plans now to include time this summer at Procter Camp & Conference Center. There are camps for all ages and interests, including a new Reading Camp to assist children in grades 3 and 4 with fundamental reading schools. Because of the popularity of Family Camp last year, a third session is being added. Jeff and Richelle and family, Dick and Sallie and Stacy, Troy and Sydney Spence attended Family Camp last year. It was a blast! Let's have a big contingent of All Saints at camp this summer. More details and registration information can be found online at: www.youth.diosohio.org Scholarships available. Contact Fr. Jeff for information at jeffreyqueen@yahoo.com or 353.7919.

June 20-25	Reading Camp	June 25-27	Family Camp I
June 30-July 3	123 Camp & Outdoor Adventure	July 6-10	4 th & 5 th (Boys & Girls)
July 12-16	Creation Camp	July 16-18	Family Camp II
July 19-24	10 th -12 th (Senior High)	July 26-31	8 th & 9 th (Intermediate Camp)
Aug. 2-7	6 th & 7 th (Junior Camp)	Aug. 11-14	Family Camp III

In the mail

These letters were received at the office.

Hello. This past year has been very financially tough for me. I am a single mother of three wonderful children. Thanks to your giving tree program, my children were able to have Christmas. I can never express enough thanks or gratitude to all the wonderful people involved in this wonderful program. You have been a blessing sent from heaven. Thank you all so much for making it possible for my children to have Christmas this year.

Dear congregation, When Catholic Social Services held our sign-up on Nov. 3 for the Christmas Giving Tree, we did not expect to have more than 1,200 children signed up to receive gifts. This year, we experienced many families saying to us that they had never before had to ask for assistance, but due to the economy, many had recently lost jobs. It was through your generosity that we were able to provide gifts to each of these children. I wish that each of you could have insight into the entire project and experiences the thankfulness of what your generosity has provided to families.

God's Blessings, Barbara C. McKenzie, Donna Montavon

All Saints Episcopal Church
610 Fourth Street
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662

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All Saints Episcopal Church

Sunday worship at 11 a.m.

Bible study at 10 a.m.

All are welcome!

*The Rev. Jeff Queen, rector
The Rev. Sallie Schisler, curate
The Rev. Dick Schisler, deacon:
Justin Wiget, director of music
Diana Michael, office manager
Dr. John Walker, senior warden
Karen Wood, junior warden*

Connections & Community

Office: 740.353.7919; 355.7915 (fax)

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

E-mail: allsaintsportsmouth@msn.com

On the web: www.allsaintsportsmouth.us

Facebook: All Saints Portsmouth

E-mail prayer chain: Share prayer requests,
church news. Contact Vicki Daily at 353.2212

The Servant: Submit articles to Richelle
Thompson at rthompson@diosohio.org

