

GETHSEMANE CATHEDRAL CALLER

Inviting people to experience a transforming relationship with Jesus Christ.

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CATHEDRAL CALLER FOR September 2009

GETHSEMANE EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

The Very Rev. Dr. Steve Sellers, Dean
Fargo, ND

www.gethsemanecathedral.org

IF YOUR 'DISAPPOINTMENT LEVEL' IS HIGH, GOD MAY BE PREPARING YOU FOR SOMETHING NEW

Dear Friends in Our Lord Jesus:

Over the last decade, we have been inundated with information about security threat levels, budget deficit levels, presidential popularity levels, swine flu levels, infectious disease levels, economic indicator levels, and national debt levels.

But what about the current "disappointment" level?

Regardless of your political affiliation, rising levels of discontent, dissatisfaction, and uneasiness seem to be spreading among people of all ages and cultures in our nation. More people than ever, if you believe the polls, are pessimistic about the future.

For Christians, the overall disappointment level seems to be approaching an all-time high. More and more people, it seems, are complaining about the state of their church. Protestants, Catholics, Charismatics, and unaffiliated groups — mainline, old-line, and new-line denominations — are all monitoring their disappointment levels on a regular basis.

And the indicators seem to be going down. In spite of the clear words of the Lord Jesus — that it is in giving ourselves in the service of others that we are rewarded (Acts 20:35, Matthew 25:31-46) — more and more Christians are taking a long look at their churches and giving up on their faith.

A great many of these people have forgotten the primary purpose for the existence of the

Christian faith: To share it with others.

But rather than sharing their faith, or even having a desire to share their faith, more and more Christians are simply disappearing into

a dark cloud of disappointment.

Several decades ago, a young man with great hopes and ideals learned about disappointment the hard way. He was married at the age of 24, just as he completed his doctorate in theology at Boston University. As part of his search for full-time employment, he preached a trial sermon at a church in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The congregation listened attentively to him, took careful notes about his demeanor and presence, and then voted overwhelmingly — by a vote of 110 to 11 — to reject him.

It was devastating news for the young man and his wife. Only one other congregation at the time was interested in him, so the young man accepted a call to become pastor of a church in Montgomery, Alabama, his wife's home state.

The year was 1954. The Supreme Court of the United States had just voted to end segregation in public schools. The next year, 1955, a Montgomery woman named Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to go to the back of a city bus.

And the young pastor — whose name was the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. — was asked to lead the organized boycott of the city's bus service.

During the 381 days of the bus strike, Dr. King, pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, was arrested and jailed, his house was bombed, and threats were made against his life and his family. And in the process, he became the leading orator in a crusade that eventually tore down the final walls of legal segregation in this country.

Dr. King knew about deep disappointment. And he talked about it repeatedly. "There can be no deep disappointment where there is no deep love," he said. And, again, "We must accept finite disappointment, but we must never lose infinite hope."

He came to believe that deep disappointment was a sign that God was preparing to unveil something new, something unexpected, something glorious. And for those who struggled regularly with disappointment, he encouraged them to stay focused on God and to remember that we are all humble servants of the Lord.

God's plan is still perfect. His timetable is still intact. And He is preparing all of us, especially through our disappointments, for something glorious. As the Psalmist writes (Psalm 139:16-17): "All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are your thoughts, O God."

The Lord Jesus never promised to spare us from disappointments. He did promise, however, that when we serve others in His name, we will have victory over our disappointments. And life eternal in His Kingdom.

— **The Very Rev. Dr. Steve Sellers +
September 2009 Vol. 137, No. 8**

A THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

“Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you did not do than by the ones you did. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.” —
Mark Twain



LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP OUT WITH SEVERAL MINISTRIES DURING THE FALL SEMESTER

NOW is the time to step forward to help with several of our ministries at the Cathedral this Fall! Sign-up sheets are posted on the Information Desk in the Great Hall for these ministries:

- * **WEDNESDAY NIGHT COOKS.** We need a handful of people to help prepare a meal for 30-35 people on Wednesday nights, beginning Wednesday, September 16.
- * **SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS and HELPERS.** We need 10 to 12 people to help with our new Christian Education curriculum (using the popular Gospel Light materials). Sunday School classes begin on September 20.

* **USHERS and GREETERS.** We need 8 to 10 people to help out with these wonderful ministries of hospitality and service.

* **COFFEE HOSTS.** We need 8 to 10 people to help out with coffee hour snacks, beginning September 20.

If the Lord is calling you to serve in these or other ways this Fall, please sign up! Or call us at the Cathedral office, 232-3394.

Also, if you are already serving in a ministry and would like to publicize what's going on, then take note of this date: Our **FALL MINISTRY FAIR** will be held at 10 a.m. on **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 . . .** This is our **RALLY DAY** for the Fall semester, and a great time to recruit new members!



GEARING UP FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER!

Mark your calendars NOW for these important dates in the month of September:

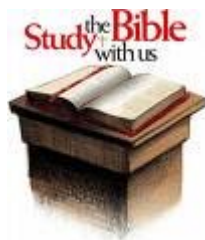
- * **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6** — Last day of summer worship schedule (8 and 10 a.m.)
- * **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13** — First day of Fall worship schedule (8, 9, and 11 a.m.) . . . with a **MINISTRY FAIR** at 10 a.m.
- * **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15** — Men's **BIBLE STUDY** begins at 7 a.m. in the Fireside Room. This Fall we will be reading through the Book of Revelation.
- * **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16** — First **WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL** (6 p.m.), and first night for the **YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS**. (A flyer is enclosed elsewhere in this newsletter with more information).
- * **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19** — Pre-convention meeting (for all Southeast region convention delegates and clergy) at 3 p.m. at Grace Church in Jamestown.
- * **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 9:30 a.m.** — Dean Sellers will teach the Safe Church training for all who work with youth and children (Great Hall).
- * **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, and SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3** — Diocesan Convention meets in Bismarck. Special speaker on Friday is Canon Carrie Boren of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, who will be encouraging us in our lives as **EVANGELISTS** for the Gospel!

FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS SEPT. 13 WITH MINISTRY FAIR AND RALLY SUNDAY

Our summer schedule ends and the busy Fall schedule begins on Sunday, September 13. This is the day that marks our return to THREE Sunday morning worship services — 8 a.m., 9 a.m., and 11 a.m. At 10 a.m. that day, as we have done the last two years, we will have a MINISTRY FAIR in the Great Hall, with tables set up for our various ministries, with information about activities, programs, service projects, and special classes during the Fall months.

This is also a day commonly known as “Rally Sunday,” a day when we focus our prayers and attention on the work that God is doing in our midst. If you are part of a ministry and would like to set up a table for information and sign-up sheets, please let us know in the Cathedral office. This is a great day to recruit new members for our ministries!

So mark your calendars NOW for the MINISTRY FAIR and RALLY SUNDAY on September 13!



MEN’S BIBLE STUDY RESUMES ON TUESDAY, SEPT. 15 WITH A CLOSE LOOK AT THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Our Tuesday morning Men’s Bible Study — which read through the Acts of the Apostles last year — will resume on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, with a study of the last and most controversial book in the Bible, the Book of Revelation.

The class meets from 7 to 8 a.m. on Tuesdays in the Fireside Room. Fr. Sellers leads the discussion, and this will be at least the 10th study he has directed on the Book of Revelation.

If you are up and around on Tuesday mornings and would enjoy some hot coffee, donuts, fellowship and Bible study, then please join us on Tuesday, September 15!



CATHEDRAL OFFICE CLOSED ON LABOR DAY

The Cathedral office will be closed on MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, for Labor Day.



NEWLY RE-DESIGNED FALL CONFIRMATION CLASS BEGINS AT 6:30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Our Fall series of CONFIRMATION CLASSES will begin at 6:30 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16. The classes, taught by Dean Sellers, are designed to be fast-paced, uplifting, and entertaining — using video clips from contemporary movies and a wide variety of audio musical clips.

The classes are designed primarily for students in junior high and high school, but these are not arbitrary age divisions. Adults who would like a refresher course in the Christian faith are also welcome to attend. The classes serve as preparation for the service of CONFIRMATION, which is scheduled for the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, November 15.

The Rt. Rev. Michael Smith, bishop of North Dakota, will be with us on Sunday, November 15, for his Fall visitation. A flyer with the full schedule of classes is included with this issue of the Cathedral Caller.

For more information, please call the Cathedral office.

THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVED AT THE SALVATION ARMY!



Special thanks to our Gethsemane servers on Sunday, August 30, at the Salvation Army! The Cathedral was represented by Fr. John Peterson, Deacon Terry Overbo, Harry Hawken, Pam Chaboura, Fr. Steve Sellers, Andrew and Marie Larson. In all, more than 100 meals were served! Blessings to all of you! Gethsemane serves the meal every Fifth Sunday of the month

CHILDREN'S CHOIR RESUMES SEPT. 16



Our children's choir (elementary-school age) will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 6. A special thanks to Jessica Rogstad for serving as children's choir director this school year while Dixie Sellers is working in Houston, Texas! It's going to be a fun year!

UTO IN-GATHERING COMING IN NOVEMBER



Our special outreach offering for the Episcopal Church Women's United Thank Offering fund will be taken and received on Sunday, November 1, at all three worship services. Please start saving loose coins and paper money for this special offering, which goes to support ECW's major outreach efforts throughout the world. And watch during the latter part of September for UTO offering envelopes and coin boxes.

THREE SPECIAL WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES COMING THIS FALL: LIFE, DEATH, LIFE AFTER DEATH

Three special Wednesday night classes will be taught this Fall by Dr. Steve Sellers on the subjects of death, dying, and life after death. The classes will be held once-a-month, in October, November and December, following the 6 p.m. Wednesday night meal.

The classes will look at a variety of spiritual approaches to death and dying, but will focus primarily on what our faith as Christians says about these subjects.

The classes will be as follows:

- * Wednesday, October 21, 6:30 p.m. — "Why is life so difficult?"
- * Wednesday, November 18, 6:30 p.m. — "What is death?"
- * Wednesday, December 16, 6:30 p.m. — "What happens after death?"

Each class is designed for youth and adults, and the nursery will be open for children under the age of 5. Further details will be available after the summer.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS RESUME ON SEPT. 16

For the second year in a row, our Wednesday night activities at Gethsemane Cathedral will include a home-cooked meal at 6 p.m. Several people have already volunteered to serve as cooks for the meal, and if you would like to help out occasionally, please sign-up on the sheet on the Information Desk in the Great Hall.

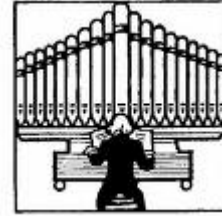
Beginning September 16, our Wednesday night schedule starts with our mid-week service of Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m. in the Chapel, followed by the dinner at 6 p.m. in the Great Hall. Choir rehearsals and other classes — including the Fall Confirmation class — begin at 6:30 p.m. Other activities and prayer groups also meet on Wednesday nights.

For more information on our "Wednesday Night LIVE" activities, please call the Cathedral office at 232-3394



September Birthdays

Simbe, Albert	09/01
Anderson, Ann	09/02
Jones, Earldamae	09/02
Tiongson, Emily	09/02
Swanson, Nicholas	09/03
Dalhouse, Jean-Pierre	09/04
Martino, Alexandra	09/04
Frear, Stuart	09/05
Smith, Michael	09/05
Horton, Carrera	09/07
Morlan, Kaylee	09/07
Simonson, Bette	09/08
Ulrich, Tyler	09/09
Remmen, David	09/10
Forness, David	09/11
Robinson, William	09/11
Anderson, Dick	09/12
Candor, Steve	09/12
Fahey, Debra	09/12
Wendel, Cathleen	09/13
Gokey, Mimi	09/14
Stevens, Elizabeth	09/14
Sprague, Marlene	09/17
Lundberg, Maryls	09/18
Drummond, William	09/19
Weilke, Florian	09/19
Jacobs, Ashley	09/20
Blake Johnson	09/20
Schweigert, Shannon	09/20
Anderson, Shane	09/21
Sheets, Jennifer	09/21
Bailly, David	09/22
Rohrich, Heather	09/24
Schmidt, Hayden	09/28
Horab, Samantha	09/29
Stevens, Charlotte	09/29
Budzielek, Matthew	09/30



DR. PEGGY JOHNSON TO SERVE AS ORGANIST AND CHOIR-MASTER BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER

Gethsemane Cathedral is blessed to have with us Dr. Peggy Johnson to take over as organist and choir-master starting in the month of September. An Episcopal Church organist with more than 30 years of experience, Dr. Johnson has agreed to come out of retirement to help us fill the void left by the departure last May of Dr. Mark Ring. She and her husband Dave retired to the "lake country" in Minnesota last year, after more than a decade of service at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Fort Collins, Colorado.

She received her doctorate in organ performance from the University of Cincinnati, her Masters and Bachelors degrees in organ from Colorado State University. She currently teaches on the music faculty in the college of music at Concordia College. She is a long-time member of the American Guild of Organists, the Association of Anglican Musicians, the Choristers Guild, Music Educators National, and the College Music Society. Dr. Johnson has been given recitals and seminars all over the world, and has served parishes in Hawaii, Cincinnati, Minnesota, and North Dakota. She has also conducted a variety of major orchestral and choral works. More information about her can be found at her web site:

www.peggyjohnson.org.

Her husband, a retired U.S. Army colonel, serves as one of our Cathedral vergers.

PRE-CONVENTION MEETING SET FOR SEPTEMBER 19

All clergy and elected delegates to our Diocesan Convention will meet for the Southeast region pre-convention meeting at 3 p.m. on Saturday, September 19, at Grace Church in Jamestown. Diocesan Convention is scheduled for Friday, October 2, and Saturday, October 3 in Bismarck. The special speaker on Friday night is lay Canon Carrie Boren of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, who will be encouraging us in our lives as EVANGELISTS for the Gospel of the Lord Jesus!

SAFEGUARDING GOD'S CHILDREN CLASS TO BE TAUGHT HERE AT 9:30 AM ON SATURDAY, SEPT. 26

For the fifth time in the last two years, Fr. Sellers will be teaching the required "Safeguarding God's Children" class for all church workers, employees, volunteers, teachers, and staff who interact with children and youth in the church.

The class is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, in the Great Hall here at Gethsemane Cathedral.

As one of the trainers for this Episcopal Church program, Dean Sellers has been presenting this important material for more than six years, in three different dioceses. By action of the General Convention and our own diocesan convention, this class is required for those working with or supervising children and youth. Members of vestries and Chapter members are also required to attend. If you have not already taken this course, please make plans to attend this session. If you work with children, have not taken the class, and absolutely cannot attend on this day, then please contact Fr. Sellers so other training can take place

PLEASE CONSIDER STARTING THE FALL BY MAKING A DONATION TO OUR ON-GOING CAPITAL CAMPAIGN!

Over the last two years, two major capital projects were begun and concluded here at Gethsemane Cathedral — replacement of our hail-damaged roof and placing new steel siding around the entire exterior of the Cathedral. In all, the two projects cost more than a quarter-of-a-million dollars. The roof project, which totaled a little more than \$100,000, was paid by our church insurance, since the roof was severely damaged during a hailstorm in October of 2007. The steel siding project cost close to \$185,000, and even though the project was structurally completed in the early part of the year, we still owe about \$109,000 to bring the project to final completion.

We will be receiving another \$30,000 for this project from the Cathedral Foundation later this Fall, which means that we still need to raise about \$79,000 by the end of the year. Now that the summer is ending, and the Fall activities are beginning, we are calling for help in finishing these projects! If you would like to make a donation to the Capital Campaign Fund as a way to begin the Fall semester, your gift will be greatly appreciated! And if you have any questions, please call the Cathedral office or ask any of our Cathedral Chapter members.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SECOND EAGLE SCOUT!



Gethsemane Cathedral now has its second Eagle Scout — Matt Martino! Congratulations to Matt and his family on this wonderful achievement. Matt joins Ben Conrad from Troop 225 as our first two Eagle Scouts. Ben passed his final Eagle review in July, and Matt passed his review in August.

The Eagle Court of Honor for Matt will be scheduled as soon as possible — likely toward the end of September. Watch the "Extra! Extra!" on Sundays for details.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER MEETING SET FOR 10 AM ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12



A brief meeting of Sunday School teachers will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 12, in the Great Hall. During this meeting with Fr. Sellers, we will go over the new curriculum, select rooms to use, and decide what supplies will be needed.

Sunday School classes will begin the following week — on Sunday, September 20, at 10:10 a.m. (between the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services).

The Ministry Fair and Rally Day gathering will be held along with the Coffee Hour at 10 a.m. on Sunday, September 13.

For more information, please call Fr. Sellers in the Cathedral Office.



September 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		5:15 Foundation meeting	9 am Morning Prayer 5:30 Eucharist	5:15 Foundation meeting		9:15 am AA Meeting
		1	2	3	4	5
8 am Traditional Service 9:10-9:50am Coffee Hour 10am Blended Service LAST DAY OF SUMMER HOURS	Office Closed for Memorial Day		9am Morning Prayer 5:30 Eucharist	Book Club - Atomic Coffee 5:30-7:30 Cub Scouts (Tiger Cubs First Meeting)		9:15 am AA Meeting
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8am Traditional 9am Contemporary 10:10-10:50 Coffee Hour 11am Classical 7:30-8:30 Cub Scout 6:30-8:30 Boy Scout Ministry Fair	7-9 AA Meeting	Mens' Bible Study Resumes - 7am	9am Morning Prayer: 5:30 Eucharist Wednesday evening meal resumes 6pm 6:30 Fall Confirmation Childrens' Choir			9:15am AA Meeting
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
8am Traditional 9am Contemporary 10:10-10:50 Coffee Hour 11am Classical SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES	7-9 AA Meeting 4pm Finance Meeting	7am Men;s Bible Study	9am Morning Prayer 5:30 Eucharist 6pm Meal 6:30 Confirmation Children's Choir	5:30 Chapter Meeting		Safe Church 9:30-12:00 9:15 AA Meeting
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
8 am Traditional 9am Contemporary 10:10-10:50 Coffee Hour 11am Classical 6:30-8:30 Boy Scouts	7-9 AA Meeting	7am Men;s Bible Study	9 am Morning Prayer 5:30 Eucharist 6pm Evening Meal 6:30 Confirmation Children's Choir			
27	28	29	30			



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LÓÓK AHEAD TO OCTOBER!

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays

8:00am Traditional Service

10:00am Blended Service

9:00am-10:00am Coffee Hour

Wednesdays

5:30pm Chapel Eucharist

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