

# The Spirit

*The quarterly newsletter of the Church of the Holy Spirit, Louisville, KY*

**August-November, 2011**

## *Volunteer of the Year: Cheri Hall*

By Suzanne Haugh

Full steam ahead is one way to describe parishioner Cheri Hall's approach to stewardship. Her constant desire to follow God's plan for her life is evidenced in her rich history of service, which garnered her the title as the first recipient of Holy Spirit's *Spirit of Stewardship Award*. Receiving this recognition is very humbling, she said. The Cincinnati native says her childhood up the river "accounts for a lot of who I am."

"One person who had an impact on me when growing up was my grandfather," she recalled. "Even though he wasn't Catholic, he paid for my tuition at a Catholic high school, which was very impressive back then." Stewardship went beyond monetary tithing. "I guess my family always did a lot, even though we didn't have a lot. I remember my mother sewed clothes for poor ladies expecting babies and put together baskets with items."

After high school she went on to nursing school, but it was in high school that she met a special man—Bob, now her husband and whom many know as Deacon Bob, former director of the archdiocesan diaconate program.

Early in their marriage Bob was in the military and Cheri wore the hat of a military wife in places like Germany and Korea. "I was thrust into active duty right away," she recounted. "Vietnam had begun. It made me question a lot of things."

Beyond being a wife, Cheri was thrust into a lot of things, including church work. "The (parish) priest

**"Preach the Gospel at all times.  
Use words if necessary"**

approached me and convinced me to teach catechism. I had one baby and was pregnant with the second." Initially she made up for her lack of training with enthusiasm, she said, and eventually grew her catechetical skills.

Military life took her family to South Korea, during a time when she and Bob became involved in Marriage Encounter. "We were among the first team to present a Marriage Encounter Weekend in Korea." Later they returned to the States, where she started a religious education program for children in a rural New York parish. "What often motivated me were the needs of my own children," she explained.

From there, they arrived in Radcliff, KY, where she re-entered nursing and began work with a Hospice program. Her zeal for the faith was recognized and she was asked to begin an RCIA program. Life was busy with these things and family life.

"With my Hospice work, RCIA and family life, I began to see the connection between faith, life and death. Family life was very active. RCIA helped people figure out life. Through Hospice I saw the end of life. It was the first time I started to integrate it all."

Among her many accomplishments, she was the first wife of a Director of the Diaconate in the archdiocese, a position that called upon her to be a mentor to wives of men in formation for the diaconate. "It was a unique role."

## Jim Ackerson : Meet Your New Parish Council President

By John Barako  
[j.barako@insightbb.com](mailto:j.barako@insightbb.com)

Holy Spirit's Parish Council is comprised of the pastor, the deacons, nine members of the parish at large, a representative from the School Advisory Board, a representative from Administration, and a representative from each of the major parish ministries: Lifelong Formation, Social Concerns, Parish Life, and Worship. There is a requirement that the council has representation from male and female, old and young. The Parish Council meets once per month and its focus is on the pastoral, or spiritual guidance, of the parish.

Jim Ackerson, who took the reins as President of the Parish Council at the August meeting, has been a member of the council for the past two years. Last year Jim held the position of Vice President. Jim is a graduate of St. Xavier High School and the University of Notre Dame. He has held management positions at United Parcel Service for nineteen years. Jim is a single father with four children, all of whom attend, or have attended, Holy Spirit School.

For many years, Jim was the flag football coach and coordinator. In addition to his service at Holy Spirit, Jim spent six years on the Board of Directors of Nativity Academy at St. Boniface in downtown Louisville. For two of those years, he was Vice Chairman of the Board.

As Parish Council President, Jim hopes to develop meaningful and creative ways to implement several parish goals. Among these are:



1. To be a parish that teaches Gospel Value and calls its members to ongoing conversion and personal growth;
2. To foster prayerful spirited liturgies and prayer experiences that nurture and welcome each parishioner wherever they may be on their journeys of faith;
3. Enhance and nourish the experience of parish community;
4. Address social issues by generously serving within the parish as well as throughout the larger community;
5. Increase parish participation and knowledge of stewardship so that each member feels challenged to belong to our family of faith.

While all the goals are significant, Jim expects the primary focus of the Parish Council to be on enhancing the parish community experience and addressing social issues.

The work done by Jim, and all the members of the Parish Council, is very important to the spiritual growth of all Holy Spirit parishioners. Supporting the efforts of the Parish Council enables each of us to enhance the Holy Spirit experience.

Editor's Note: To assure meaningful communication, contact information for all members of the Parish Council is printed on the cover of the weekly bulletin.

## *Youth Ministry has the key...*

*By Eric Flack*

John Brockmeier believes the key to a strong youth ministry is simple: people.

"The more people involved, the greater experiences we will be capable to offer to the youth," said Brockmeier, Youth Ministry Coordinator for Holy Spirit and Holy Trinity Parishes.

This fall there will be plenty of opportunities to get involved.

Every Sunday, the high school youth group meets from 6:30 to 8:30pm at Holy Trinity or Holy Spirit's youth center. Monday afternoon is junior high drop-in from 2:30 to 5pm at the Holy Spirit Youth Center. And junior high youth group gathers every Wednesday night from 7 to 8:30pm at the Holy Trinity Youth Center.



Labor Day weekend will be the high school youth group's Cardboard Village Retreat: a weekend retreat where high school students spend the night in cardboard boxes

and spend an afternoon downtown to learn more about those in our community that are poor and

marginalized.

Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm, Immaculate Conception is hosting a Steve Angrisano concert. Steve is a nationally renowned Catholic music artist.

Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, is the regional junior high bon fire. Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> is the dinner with the Archbishop. Junior high and high school youth are invited to attend.

November 17<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup> is the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis, a gathering of over 20,000 high school youth from around the US. There will be music, workshops, worship, and tons of fun.

The youth ministry year wraps up on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> when they will be partnering with the Spirit Singers for an evening of Christmas caroling around the neighborhood of Holy Spirit.

Brockmeier also wants to remind parents that youth ministry isn't just for teens.

"I have a group of dedicated adults and young adults who attend on a weekly basis," he said. "The youth look up to them as mentors. I'm always looking for more volunteers to offer their time to youth ministry."

To find out more visit Holy Spirit's website, [www.hspirit.org](http://www.hspirit.org) and click on "Youth Ministry".



## ***SING A NEW SONG :***

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### **Louisville hosts the National Association of Pastoral Musicians National Convention**

A reflection on the experience:

By Ann Wallace

I had no idea what I was volunteering for. But I soon found out.

Let me introduce myself. My name is Ann Wallace. I've been at Holy Spirit Church for about 28 years. I have been in the Spirit Singers and the Spirit Ringers for many years.

When Pip and Dave (our organist and choir director) asked for volunteers, I stepped right up. Little did I know that I was about to have a wonderful week. I volunteered for four hours every day, which allowed me to attend the convention at no charge. It also allowed me to attend the classes of my choice.

The first day and every day after that was a "WOW" reaction! Over 3,000 people involved in liturgy, worship, and music were filling the halls (... of the Kentucky International Convention Center, the Marriott hotel, and numerous area churches).

I experienced Kentucky hospitality, met a bell choir director from New Mexico, a music director from St. Lawrence Church here in Louisville, and a nun from Owensboro who gave me a history lesson on her German based convent. These folks are just a few, among the many of attendees.

All of this was added to the local musical groups filling in the gaps: a youth group of hand bell ringers, a hand bell soloist, a singer of Shaker tunes, players from the Louisville Mandolin Orchestra, and people singing in any space they could find.

Every day was filled with excitement. Meeting new people, talking with old friends, and seeing young people involved. It was a whirlwind yet there was always time for reflection and prayer.

I was in awe.

I would invite you to join in the celebration of faith and family here at Holy Spirit Church. I read a bumper sticker on my last day that said, "*Don't postpone joy.*"

Come and have some fun! To find out how to join the choir or the Spirit Hand bell Ringers, call David Minton at 893-3982.

*Habitat for Humanity  
Work Crew  
August 13, 2011*



*Front Row—L to R—David Hise, Heather Hise, Cindy Adelberg, Valerie Herbert, Greg Jones  
Back Row—Jerry Williamson, Sheila Williamson, Shannon Ash, Essie Reilly*

*Watch the bulletin for upcoming Habitat for Humanity and other service opportunities. For more information or to offer suggested service outlets, contact Valerie Herbert, [vhertbert@aol.com](mailto:vhertbert@aol.com) or Essie Reilly at 893-3982*

# *Picture This!!!!*

***Beginning, Saturday August 20th, we will sign up for the new edition of the Pictorial Directory. Please sign up as soon as possible to get an appointment that best suits your schedule. You can even sign up now, day or night, by going online at our church web site, [www.hspirit.org](http://www.hspirit.org), and click on the sign up link. If you do not have access to a computer, call Essie Reilly at the Ministry Center and she will help enroll you.***

- Every participating family/household will receive a free directory and complimentary 8 x 10 or 9- Wallets of their Natural Color Portrait.***
- You will come to the church only once for photography and the portrait viewing. The entire process should take about an hour.***
- FEED THE NEED – Help OUR FOOD BANK by bringing in a food item with you to your Portrait Appointment and receive \$5.00 OFF your portrait order.***
- If you wish to purchase portraits, each family will receive an additional 20% discount off their portrait order.***
- Whether you decide to dress formally or casually, you will want to make the most of this opportunity. The directory won't be complete without you.***

***The scheduled dates for photography and portrait viewing are:***

- |                           |                                      |                                   |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b><i>• TUESDAY</i></b>   | <b><i>OCTOBER 4, 11 &amp; 18</i></b> | <b><i>3:00 PM – 9:00 PM</i></b>   |
| <b><i>• WEDNESDAY</i></b> | <b><i>OCTOBER 5, 12 &amp; 19</i></b> | <b><i>3:00 PM – 9:00 PM</i></b>   |
| <b><i>• THURSDAY</i></b>  | <b><i>OCTOBER 6, 13 &amp; 20</i></b> | <b><i>3:00 PM – 9:00 PM</i></b>   |
| <b><i>• FRIDAY</i></b>    | <b><i>OCTOBER 7, 14 &amp; 21</i></b> | <b><i>3:00 PM – 9:00 PM</i></b>   |
| <b><i>• SATURDAY</i></b>  | <b><i>OCTOBER 8, 15 &amp; 22</i></b> | <b><i>10:00 AM -- 5:00 PM</i></b> |

***If you have any questions, please contact Essie Reilly at 893.3982. We look forward to seeing everyone in the directory.***

*Holy Spirit to Welcome  
New Associate Pastor :  
Deacon Johnny Johnson  
soon to be ordained*

By Heather Hise



He served as an Episcopal priest for 21 years, ministering to parishes in Pennsylvania, California, and Florida. About five years ago, however, Johnson became unsettled by a growing lack of structure and stability within the Episcopal Church.

Holy Spirit will soon welcome a new associate pastor—and parishioners will also come to know his wife of 43 years, his two sons, and his grandchildren. Though Deacon Johnny Johnson is entering the Catholic priesthood somewhat unconventionally, there's no mistaking his passion for the vocation.

Johnson, a Louisville native and graduate of Southern High School and the University of Louisville, is a former Episcopal priest and Methodist minister. He and his wife, Sherry, were Methodists when he felt the call in college “to give my life totally to Christ and His church.” Johnson remembers being up late one night during Christmas break, unable to sleep, when he heard a voice say, “Pray for your salvation.” Johnson said the experience “rocked my intellectual foundation,” and though he had intended to become a lawyer, he couldn't ignore the voice he heard so plainly.

After enrolling at Asbury Theological Seminary to earn a master's degree in divinity, Johnson had an “epiphany” when he began studying Greek, the church fathers, and transubstantiation—the concept that the bread and wine at communion become the real body and blood of Christ, not just a symbol. In 1986, Johnson converted to the Episcopal faith and began working toward a master's degree in Anglican studies at Seabury-Western Seminary in Evanston, Illinois.

Because he and his wife had already converted to the Episcopal faith after being raised Methodists, he was hesitant to suggest converting yet again—this time to Roman Catholicism. Johnson prayed about the decision and asked God to tell Sherry if it was meant to be. He was completely stunned when, one morning while Sherry was fixing breakfast, she told him that she had been praying about their faith and believed they needed to become Catholic—with absolutely no prompting from him.

“My wife has always been so integral to my ministry,” said Johnson. “At that point, I had decided that I'd rather be a Roman Catholic lay person than an Episcopal priest because of the trueness of the Roman Catholic Church. I was thrilled to hear her say that she was on board.”

After Johnson resigned as vicar of an Episcopal parish in Miami Beach in 2006, the couple moved back to Louisville. He began seminary at St. Meinrad in Indiana the following year and finished with a master's degree in theology this May. Johnson will be ordained by Archbishop Joseph Kurtz on Saturday, August 27, at 10:00 am, at the Cathedral of the Assumption. He will celebrate his first Mass as a Catholic priest at Holy Spirit on Sunday, August 28.

“The people here at Holy Spirit are a class act,” said Johnson. “I also enjoy Father Tony's insight and wisdom, and I know I'll be able to grow spiritually here.”

## Keeping Up with the Parish



*Remember those who have died  
and were buried from Holy Spirit:*

**Martha Harper**, died April 30

**Hugh Caperton Henderson**, died May 20

**Rita Ruth Tull Gutsell**, died May 24

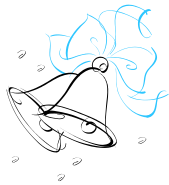
**Katherine Elizabeth Dougherty**, died June 18

**James T. Sims**, died July 10

**Helen Mc Intyre**, died on July 17

**Mary Sue Zulauf**, died on July 28

**John McGill Sparling**, died on August 4



Congratulations to the newly wedded couples!

**Julie Renee Norckauer** and  
**Kyle Andrew Sheldon**

+++

**Jaime Marie Miller** and  
**Thomas Jeffrey Lamkin**

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**Kristen Ann DeGaris** and  
**Stuart Martin Ditsler**

**WELCOME** to our new members!

**Todd Lindner**

**Erin Clayton** and **Brian Gruber**, with **Ella Gruber**

**Matt** and **Kathryn Valenti** with **Sarah**,  
**Caroline**, and **Thomas**

**Robin** and **Keith Colvin** with **Bryant** and **Cade**

**Sam** and **Katie Gaunt**, with **Max** and **Lucielle**

**Michael** and **Barbara Kmetz**

**Hilary Zehnder**

**Peter** and **Julia Wayne**

**Jimmy** and **Cara King** with **Kailey** and **James**

**Timothy** and **Kelly Maciejak**

**Bud Clemons** with **Myleigh**

**Christopher** and **Shannon Kelting** with  
**Cayman** and **Caina**

**Michael** and **Erin Dennis** with **Sydney** and  
**Adelaide**

**Chris** and **Meredith Jones** with **Drake** and  
**William**

**Steve** and **Lindsey Brown**

**Edward** and **Diane Binzel**

**Thomas** and **Blakely Kute** with **Jane** and  
**Mary**

**Martin Lowe** with **Bryce** and **Reece**

**Newsletter Team:**

**Writers:** John Barako, Eric Flack, Suzanne Haugh,  
Heather Hise, Ann Wallace

**Proofreaders:** Bobbie Raibert, Eileen Walsh

**Editor:** Essie Reilly

*If you have story ideas or would like to join the Newsletter Team,  
contact Essie Reilly, 893-3982, or ereilly@hspirit.org*

