

## AUGUST 2005

News of the people and ministries of the Saint Michael and All Angels Church, Sanibel Island, Florida

### “Seeing is believing?” Part II

Last week a group of film lovers met in the Parish Hall and we watched “Finding Neverland.” It was part four of our summer film series: “Seeing is Believing?” The film is about playwright James M. Barrie, and the events in his life as he was writing his most famous play, “Peter Pan.” This is the story of Neverland, the magical place where Peter Pan flies and no one ever grows old. And, it is a reminder of what it means to believe in something.

Allow me a final word this summer on my question: “What do we need to believe in something?” The beauty of this story, and this was the film that helped me come up with the theme of the summer series, is the reminder to us about our faith, our faith defined as believing in a Christ we don’t see in person. But, a Christ that is seen in other people and in our “Christ like” behavior towards them.

So we ask ourselves: “What do we need to believe in this?” Several things that come to mind include; Christian witness, miracles and knowing in our heart that Christ exists and is alive in the world around us.

And how do we know this? We know this because at the basic core of our faith is grace. And this is a love that we cannot see. An unconditional love that began on the Cross and continues in our Christian call to witness to His grace in the way we treat and care for others. In the grace filled way we are loved by others - the way we are loved by Christ – unconditionally.

In the story of Peter Pan there is a moment that can be frightening to a child, but rather poignant as we grow older. And that is the moment when the alligator who has swallowed the “ticking clock” continues to chase the evil Captain Hook. I say poignant to us as adults, because it is referred to in the film when said to author Barrie, “our life is really about time isn’t it, like the ticking clock, always chasing us?”

I don’t believe we live a life being chased by a ticking clock, but I do believe time is important. In fact, our news and our world remind us that time is not only important, but every moment is precious, every moment is grace.

So I offer this as we close out our discussion on “seeing is believing?” Let’s not wait for something to happen before we believe this about time. Today, now, let us as Christ asks, accept this gift. Time and grace, they are both gifts. And more importantly, time together, that is true grace. Life doesn’t have to be a struggle to answer the question: “What do we need to believe in something?” Rather, let’s look at our faith and say: “What we need is already given to us – unconditionally.” If we accept this, from Christ, we have our answer. Now in turn, let us go share that answer with others.

Peace,

**Suzy**



**Noah's Ark Bag Day  
Aug 26th**

**Children's Ministries**

**Jacob Howard Gift**

**Birthdays &  
Anniversaries**

## *Worship is at the heart of all we do*

We invite you to worship with us:

Saturdays 5 p.m. Holy Eucharist  
Sundays 8 a.m. Rite I Eucharist with hymns  
Sundays 10 a.m.\* Holy Eucharist with hymns  
(\*With Sunday Overseas Shuttle)  
Wednesdays 9 a.m. Eucharist with prayers for healing

## Announcements

**The Shell Point Village Thursday 10 a.m. Eucharist** has been suspended through the summer. The next Shell Point Village service will be Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.

**The Church Office Summer Schedule:** Monday through Thursday 9 – 1 p.m., and Friday 9 – noon. Edie works Monday – Wednesday; Mary Jo works Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays.

### **Volunteer to help in the CCMI Soup Kitchen**

this summer. St. Michael's dates are Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, and Friday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please volunteer to help those who need help. Sign up in the Parish Hall.



**CCMI Food In-gathering:** Baskets are in the Parish Hall, so you can bring donations of non-perishable food (unopened packaged or canned) anytime in August or September to the Church. The following items are needed to stock the Food Service Pantry. These items will be used to fill food bags for families, and round out menus in The Soup Kitchen. The Soup Kitchen needs most: August - boxed macaroni & cheese, September – breakfast cereal and fruit juice, October – boxed stuffing mix, November – canned sweet potatoes, December – pork & beans. Donated food will be delivered to the CCMI Soup Kitchen.



**Gifts of securities:** When asking your broker to transfer securities to the church's brokerage account, please contact the church. Our broker will not have and cannot trace the name of the donor otherwise. We have recently accepted a gift of Exxon Mobil but are not able to credit the donor until you identify yourself. Please contact Edie in the Parish Office: 239 472-2173 (ext. 7).

## Children's Ministries News:

Plans are in the works for a children's education program to begin in the late Fall and run through season.

The Rev. Suzy Post is working on a possible mid-week education program, an alternative to Sunday mornings, and help is needed!! NO EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY. All you need is a willing heart to teach our children about their Lord!

If you have any interest in working with children or helping to develop a mid-week education program please speak to Suzy. Supplies and lessons are provided and people teach in teams. There will be a brainstorming/planning session in September. Please speak to Suzy for more information or if you are interested in being a part of this very important ministry.

### **STILL SEARCHING!!**

**Do you know** of a Gulf-front 2 or 3BR house or condo availability beginning around September 1<sup>st</sup>? Does one of your neighbors perhaps know of a place? Our new Director of Music and his wife are still looking for a temporary home in Sanibel, and really need your help! Please call (352) 376-2636 or (352) 256-1069 with rental information.

## *Share Our Blessings*

### *Building News*

There is good news about the additions to the Parish Hall. We received unanimous approval (7-0) of our request for a development permit from the Sanibel Planning Commission on June 28<sup>th</sup> and then their adoption of the approval on July 12<sup>th</sup>. We now have to wait another 15 days before the package goes to the city building Department for processing the building permit request.

Building and Grounds Committee has requested all contractors bidding on this project to have their proposals in our hands by the second week of August. If all goes well we will be breaking ground in October.

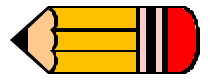
Blueprint floor plans and a rendition of the building additions will be posted in the gallery. Watch for our progress in the *Red Door* and in the gallery.

Lee Almas, Junior Warden

## ***Pastoral Care News***

*Jacob Howard Gift:* Jacob Robert Howard was born on June 18, at Cape Coral Hospital, just one day after his father, Robert Howard's memorial service. Many people have been searching for a way to help Connie and the baby during this difficult time. After much thought and discussion it has been decided we would ask anyone who would like to be a part of a gift to Connie and the new baby to contribute monetary gifts during the summer and then we will present Connie with one check at the beginning of September. If you would like to contribute to the gift, please send a check to the Church made payable to Saint Michael's and marked "Jacob Howard." Please note that this is a gift to Robert's widow, Connie and not a contribution to Saint Michael's and therefore will not be noted on your contribution statement. We will accept donations up until August 31. For more information, please speak to The Rev. Suzy Post.

## **Undie Sunday Thank You!**



Thank you!! Thank you to everyone who contributed items for Undie Sunday! We took up a wonderfully generous collection and it was a privilege to deliver it to the volunteers from the Multicultural Center in Ft. Myers, who were very grateful for our donations. Thank you everyone. - Suzy Post

## ***Celebrating the 4<sup>th</sup> on Sanibel***

The Noah's Ark Thrift Shop float was a hit in the Sanibel 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade! The float stopped in front of St. Michael's so that parishioners could ride the parade route!

**Join us for the August  
Covered Dish Supper**  
Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>  
at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

***August Birthdays***

August 1 Donald Fishburne, Frank Griffith  
2 Jean DiMicco  
3 David Amend  
4 Ann Simms  
5 Irene Heider, Charles Thoms  
7 Barry Gordon  
8 Del Hanner  
9 Edna Hanner  
10 Donald Van Alstyne  
12 John Doody, Ginny Johnson,  
Dmitri Scutakes  
13 Bill Pryor  
14 David Bath  
15 Connie Edgar, Nome Thompson  
16 David Adams, Bob Allen,  
Alicia Jordan

18 Bob Ingraham  
19 Jeannette Clegg, Doris Rogers  
20 Halsey Spruance  
24 Lloyd Stallings  
25 Alwyn Johnson, Bob Rawlins,  
Bruce Sprinkle  
26 Lou Hill  
27 Pat Jones  
28 Shirlla Cuscaden  
29 Anne Stewart  
30 Hyde Tucker  
31 Clint Ellenberg, Jack Norris

***August Anniversaries***

August 5 The Pryors  
12 The Brunings  
18 The Ingrahams  
30 The Roses  
31 The Jordans

***Noah's Ark is Open!***

Tuesdays and Fridays

9:30 - 12:30 p.m.

Bag Day is August 26th.

Closed in September.

The Ark reopens on Monday, Oct 3rd.

**SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH**  
2304 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL 33957

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**AUGUST 2005  
PENTECOST SEASON**