

## A Life-changing Weekend with



### Episcopal Relief & Development

Healing a hurting world

*By The Rev'd Virginia Holleman*

On Thursday before the Memorial Day Weekend, I boarded the plane for Belize City, Belize and the annual Network Meeting of Episcopal Relief & Development – in part wondering what I was doing going out of town to an exotic location on a long weekend – alone! But not alone for long! This meeting is the annual gathering of network and provincial coordinators for Episcopal Relief & Development, and shortly after I arrived I found myself surrounded by very like-minded people, determined to make a difference in the lives of people who needed our help. The coordinators are the folk who are responsible for letting people in the parishes know about the work The Episcopal Church does to bring healing to a hurting world and how each of us can support that continuing work.

Episcopal Relief & Development was established in 1940 by The Episcopal Church as the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief to assist refugees fleeing Europe during World War II. Later the name was changed to Episcopal Relief & Development to emphasize not only the ongoing emergency relief work but also the focus on long-term development and rehabilitation. Relief work is the immediate response after a disaster – like a hurricane or tsunami; then comes the long-term work of rebuilding in the

beleaguered community, work that can take five years or more. When most other relief organizations have left, Episcopal Relief & Development is still working to rebuild lives and communities. The organization does its work internationally by working with the Anglican Churches in 46 countries around the world and, in our country, by working with local churches and dioceses. The amazing thing, too, about this organization is its financial responsibility to its donors – at least 90 cents of every dollar donated goes to the work of Episcopal Relief & Development and NOT to administrative expenses.

In addition to the expected business and training meetings that weekend, our time together was also focused on the long-term development programs and what they can do for people living in third-world countries; programs like Nets-For-Life that provides and trains for the use of specially treated mosquito nets to protect people from malaria-bearing mosquitoes; or programs to provide safe drinking water for communities; or programs to help build latrines and smokeless stoves to improve their quality of life. Our group took field-trips out into the country to specifically experience age-appropriate programs in HIV/AIDS education for the children in Anglican schools in Belize; and the financial assistance made available through the micro-loan program which enables clients to rise economically to a “poverty level” standard of living and, in time, even above that bare subsistence.

We visited four recipients of the micro-loan program; these loans are usually for \$500-\$2000, made for five years though they often are paid back in three or less. The interest rates are high by our standards, but these are people who cannot get a loan at a bank and thus would have no way of improving their lives. The loans must be guaranteed by a non-family member and the pay-back rate is 95%

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*Julia Isabel Gonzalez, Woman Farmer of the Year 2010, and her family*



*The hearing-impaired class at the Anglican school we visited*

or better. The loans are small so that the client can reasonably be expected to repay and, just as important, so that they will re-apply for a second, third or even fourth loan and stay connected to the support and training Episcopal Relief & Development provides.

One of the micro-loan recipients we visited is Julia, the mother of two sons. Together the family and two of Julia's sisters work her farm. They produce both short-term crops – tomatoes and peppers – and long-term crops – root vegetables and plantain. She is always looking for ways to improve her farm. As a family they decided to ask for a loan so they could purchase additional farm tools to assist them in clearing more land. She has received two loans from the funds and has an excellent repayment record. Her farm now includes a small tilapia pond, some cattle, a variety of vegetables, beans, plantains, a “green” house which is actually a netted en-

sure to protect the more fragile plants from hungry bugs, and an assortment of farm tools. Because of her dedication and hard work, Julia was awarded Female Farmer of the Year 2010 and given a solar panel – a real boon to a household that had no electricity! She and her very grateful family now live above the poverty level.

Working in partnership with the worldwide Church, ecumenical agencies and local organizations, Episcopal Relief & Development saves lives and strengthens communities around the world. Transfiguration has supported ERD for many years, and with your continued commitment and generosity, we will continue to do our part to care for the least of God's children. I will be delighted to share more of my experience with you at any time – just give me a call at the office and share in my enthusiasm and excitement for this organization.

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### INTRODUCING OUR NEW YOUTH CHOIR DIRECTOR

We welcome Chris Ahrens to our staff as Youth Choir Director beginning this month. Chris is choir director at Vines High School in Plano and holds a Bachelors Degree in Music Education and Masters of Music in Choral Conducting from Texas Christian University. Chris is married to Kimberley Ahrens, our Director of Children's Choirs since 2008. Along with this change in leadership and name, Youth Choir rehearsals will now be held on Wednesday evenings from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. in conjunction with the Youth Program's Crossover. Chris Ahrens looks forward to working with Jeb Honeyman and all the youth in reinvigorating this important component of the music ministry beginning in August.

**THE WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP** will meet Thursday, August 5, at 7:00 p.m., in the Hospitality Room to discuss *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, an informative, compelling, and suspenseful novel, set in Sweden. Discredited, crusading financial journalist, Mikael Blomkvist, facing a jail sentence, works with punk hacker savant, Lisbeth Salander, in an attempt to bring down a billionaire who earned his money through underhanded means and to solve the disappearance of a woman from forty years ago. All women are welcomed. Please come and bring a friend.

**THE FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION IS SUNDAY, AUGUST 8** Be sure to join us as we celebrate the Holy Eucharist on our Feast of Title on Sunday, August 8 (transferred). At the 9:00 a.m. service, we will baptize new young members of our parish family. We'll see you there!

**DON'T MISS RALLY WEEKEND!** The weekend of August 21 and 22 is Rally Weekend. The fun will take place before and after all services and will be located in Roper Hall. This annual event showcases all of our ministries and organizations. If your group would like to reserve a table, please contact Elaine Sweet at 972-605-2775 or [gr8folks@tx.rr.com](mailto:gr8folks@tx.rr.com). Let's have all 80 ministries represented this year!

**THE WAY** will begin a new series on Thursday, August 26. This class is for any adult who is interested in finding out about Baptism,

Confirmation, or Reception into the Episcopal Church. The first Stage runs for seven Thursday's from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. with a light meal (and childcare is available if needed). Members of the Parish, start speaking to people you know who might be interested in exploring membership in the Church or deepening their commitment, inviting them to take part. Watch for more information in the Fall issue of Crossroads. Contact Michael Merriman at [mmerriman@transfiguration.net](mailto:mmerriman@transfiguration.net)

**THE TURTLE CREEK CHORALE** invites singers from area congregations to sing with them in a program called *Partners In Harmony*. Transfiguration has been a Partner in Harmony congregation for many years. The gala concert event will be held in the Meyerson Symphony Center on Monday evening, October 18, with rehearsal dates of Sunday, October 3, Sunday, October 10 and Saturday October 16. The cost per performer is \$35 which includes a rehearsal CD and marked score. The concert will feature the Turtle Creek Chorale, the SMU Meadows School of the Arts Chorale and a *Partners in Harmony* massed choir in the performance of several works including the Rutter *Gloria*. Details and an application form are posted in one of the plastic display slots on the bulletin boards near the Church Life North restrooms. Applications must be received by the Chorale offices no later than September 10, 2010.

**PARISH TRAVELERS NORWEGIAN CRUISE** The 2011 edition of the Transfiguration Parish Travelers will depart from Dallas on July 21, 2011, for a fabulous and scenic cruise along the Norwegian Coast. Travelers will fly KLM to Amsterdam where they board a Celebrity Cruise Line ship sailing into Oslo and from Oslo to ports along the Norwegian Coast. Nearly every day of the cruise travelers will be delighted with views of the magnificent fjords, the coastline, and coastal towns and cities – great food and great natural beauty. Optional inland excursions will be available from many ports along the way. Possible optional extensions to enjoy the sights, sounds and frivolity of amazing Amsterdam on one end or the other of your trip are also available. For more information or to register your interest in joining this trip, please contact the rector at [jgodwin@transfiguration.net](mailto:jgodwin@transfiguration.net) or 972.233.1898, ext. 233 or Bill Edwards at [bill@cruiseescapes.com](mailto:bill@cruiseescapes.com)



# August 2010 calendar of events

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 01, 2010

Parish Travelers Trip to Croatia	
Holy Eucharist	7:30AM Church
Capital Campaign	
Informational Event	8:30AM Roper Hall
Holy Eucharist	9:00AM Church
Summer Adult Class	10:15AM Conference Room 1
Holy Eucharist	11:15AM Church

## MONDAY, AUGUST 02, 2010

Parish Travelers Trip to Croatia	
AA	8:00PM Niles Building

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 03, 2010

Parish Travelers Trip to Croatia	
Companions in Christ	1:00PM Hospitality Room
Stephen Ministers Meeting	7:00PM Staff Room
Stewardship Meeting	7:00PM Vestry Room

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 04, 2010

Parish Travelers Trip to Croatia	
Wednesday Moms Group	9:45AM Parlor
Holy Eucharist	6:00PM Church
Transfiguration Choir Rehearsal	7:15PM Performance Hall
Youth Crossover	7:15PM Youth Center

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 05, 2010

Parish Travelers Trip to Croatia	
Holy Eucharist	12:00PM Church
Families Anonymous	7:00PM Room S204 (iParent Room)
Women's Book Study	7:00PM Hospitality Room
AA	8:00PM Niles Building

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 06, 2010

<i>Feast of the Transfiguration</i>	
Parish Travelers return to Dallas	
Gay & Lesbian Fellowship	7:00PM Church

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 07, 2010

Altar Guild	9:00AM Church
Parish Council Meeting	10:00AM Vestry Room
Baptism Rehearsal	10:30AM Church
Holy Eucharist & Holy Baptism	5:30PM Church

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 08, 2010

<i>The Feast of the Transfiguration (transferred)</i>	
Holy Eucharist	7:30AM Church
Holy Eucharist & Holy Baptism	9:00AM Church
Summer Adult Class	10:15AM Conference Room 1
Holy Eucharist	11:15AM Church

## MONDAY, AUGUST 09, 2010

AA	8:00PM Niles Building
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## TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2010

Companions in Christ	1:00PM Hospitality Room
Stephen Leader Meeting	4:30PM Staff Room
Vestry Meeting	7:00PM Vestry Room

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2010

Wednesday Moms Group	9:45AM Parlor
Holy Eucharist	6:00PM Church
No Transfiguration Choir Rehearsal	
Youth Crossover	7:15PM Youth Center

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2010

Holy Eucharist	12:00PM Church
Families Anonymous	7:00PM Room S204 (iParent Room)
AA	8:00PM Niles Building

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 2010

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 2010

Altar Guild	9:00AM Church
The Way Meeting	10:00AM Vestry Room
Holy Eucharist	5:30PM Church
U2charist	7:00PM Roper Hall

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 2010

Holy Eucharist	7:30AM Church
Holy Eucharist	9:00AM Church
Summer Adult Class	10:15AM Conference Room 1
Children's Sunday School	
Teacher Training	10:15AM Room S203 (Children's Gathering)
Holy Eucharist	11:15AM Church
Rector's Newcomer Reception	5:00PM Parlor

## MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2010

Youth Week	
AA	8:00PM Niles Building

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2010

Youth Week	
Companions in Christ	1:00PM Hospitality Room
Stephen Ministers Meeting	7:00PM Staff Room

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2010

<i>Feast of St. Mary the Virgin, transferred</i>	
Youth Week	
Wednesday Moms Group	9:45AM Parlor
Holy Eucharist	6:00PM Church
Transfiguration Choir Rehearsal	7:15PM Performance Hall

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2010

Youth Week	
Holy Eucharist	12:00PM Church
Families Anonymous	7:00PM Room S204 (iParent Room)
AA	8:00PM Niles Building

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 2010

Youth Week	
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## August 2010 calendar of events

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 2010

Rally Weekend	
2011 Stewardship Launch	
Workday	
Altar Guild	9:00AM Church
Godly Play Training	9:00AM Child Care D
Holy Eucharist	5:30PM Church

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 2010

Rally Weekend	
2011 Stewardship Launch	
Holy Eucharist	7:30AM Church
Holy Eucharist	9:00AM Church
Holy Eucharist	11:15AM Church
Godly Play Training	12:00PM Child Care D
Youth Ministry Volunteer	
Appreciation Luncheon	12:30PM Parlor

### MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 2010

PES Beginning of School	
Orientation 1st Grade	10:00AM Roper Hall
AA	8:00PM Niles Building

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2010

Companions in Christ	1:00PM Hospitality Room
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### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2010

<i>Feast of St. Bartholomew, transferred</i>	
Wednesday Moms Group	9:45AM Parlor
Holy Eucharist	6:00PM Church
Transfiguration Choir	7:15PM Performance Hall

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 2010

Holy Eucharist	12:00PM Church
The Way	7:00PM Vestry Room
Families Anonymous	7:00PM Room S204 (iParent Room)
Fig Bridge Group	7:00PM Conference Room 1
Ladies Night In	7:00PM Hospitality Room
AA	8:00PM Niles Building

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2010

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2010

Capital Campaign Ingathering	
Altar Guild	9:00AM Church
Holy Eucharist	5:30PM Church

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2010

Capital Campaign Ingathering	
Holy Eucharist	7:30AM Church
Holy Eucharist	9:00AM Church
First Christian Formation Classes of Fall Semester	10:15AM Various Locations
Holy Eucharist	11:15AM Church
Capital Campaign Celebration Dinner Event	5:30PM Roper Hall

### MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 2010

AA	8:00PM Niles Building
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### TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2010

Companions in Christ	1:00PM Hospitality Room
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## September upcoming events

6

*Labor Day*

19

*Transfigured Nights  
Evensong for Holy Cross Day*

25

*Fig Fest*

## Meet Your Vestry Members

My name is David Huff, and I'm a new member of the Vestry, having been elected to begin my term in 2010. My duties there include Congregational Development and the IT systems in the parish offices. My wife Karen and I live on the northwest side of Plano along with our two children: Spencer (13) and Laura (4). During the week, I work for Parkland Hospital as an IT

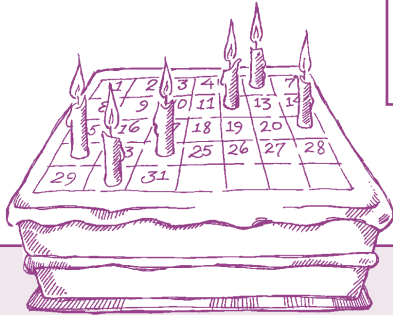
Security Engineer, while Karen is a SVP at Bank of America. I very much look forward to serving this remarkable, welcoming place and encourage any of my fellow parishioners to contact me, or any member of the Vestry, with any questions or concerns you may have.

## Holy Baptism at transfiguration

Holy Baptism is administered in the context of the Sunday Eucharist. Candidates for baptism are infants and young children of members of the parish and older children and adults who desire to make a mature and public commitment to the Christian faith. Each candidate for Holy Baptism is generally sponsored by one or more baptized persons. Required preparation classes for parents and available godparents precede each baptism date. Please contact Michael Merriman at 972.233.1898, extension 237 for information regarding adult Baptism. Call Ellen Dingwall at 972.233.1898, extension 229 for information on child or infant Baptism.



## Financial Update year-to-date through June, 2010



	Actual	Budget	Variance
<b>Revenues</b>	\$943,593.12	\$907,416.00	(\$36,177.12)
<b>Expenses</b>	\$850,076.79	856,765.00	(6,688.21)
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$93,516.33</b>	<b>\$50,651.00</b>	<b>\$42,865.33</b>

## August birthdays

**1** Jack Taylor, Jr., Elizabeth Casone, Sam Ahmed

**2** Paul Gormly, Brenda Boyd, Nicholas Georgas, Adam Wilson

**3**

**4** Janice Truitt, Andrew Jamieson, Tristan Scott

**5** Bob Ryan, Robbi Dietrich, James Gray, Christine Parker, Jane Wachtman, Lucy Henard, Caroline Ware

**6** Frances Nightingale, Sherel Horsley, Dana Bartholomew, Linda McClellan, Annie Hawkins

**7** Steve James, James Wright, Ashley Simpson, Elizabeth Mayfield

**8** Forrest Jones, Rolf Schneider, Pamela Richardson, Becky Pruessner, John Pennington, Thomas Ciccirelli

**9** Paul Welch, Bonita Robertson, Aurelia Moore

**10** Patsy Weigard, Tudi Owens, Gigi Correll, Mike Silverman, John Ross

**11** Tim Gadsby, Marci McLean, Cori Lambert

**12** Beverly Hart, Phyl Kerrigan, Nona Payne, Ann Nolen, Jamie Son, Sara Townsend

**13** Mark Weisbart

**14** Ann Mason, Diane Almquist, Brent Truitt, Hamp McCary

**15** Richard Wiencek, John Mitro

**16** Betty Ave, Helen Franz, Jill Johnson, Ed Tavares, Patrick Weix, Ginger Price

**17** Charles Johnson, Marcia Hodgkins, Sharon Turner, Lindsay Hale, Juley Bjelobrk, Chrissy Luke

**18** Chandra Grant, Wendy Cone, Jenny Burgos, Connor Coleman

**19** Beverly Whittington, Tim Tiernan, Meghan Mazur

**20** Bert Bryan, Gene Campbell, Maggie Walsh, Mary Ellen Horan, Marge Montgomery, Charleen Shook, Warren Dixon, Jan Mokate, Nicole Ubl, Mike Hale, Linda Robb, Elizabeth Coleman, Jack Coleman

**21** Larry Hulbert, Jeff DeBord, Amy Smith, Jennifer Kellam, Hollye Fisk, Shane Jarvie, Beck Duggleby, Mia Grimes

**22** Sheila Brookshire, Jeff Wenzel

**23** Sally Jones, Al Rudy, Bob Marquardt, Rebecca Hodge

**24** Elaine Culver, Amy Heller, Katie Specht, Sophie Cone

**25** Elsie Underhill, Marilyn Emery, Rita Spence, Martha Cordell, Steve Wyse, Alden Zogg

**26** Put Schrauff, Neil Earnest, Sam Jackson, Melissa Friedman, Cali Cantrell, Laura Huff

**27** Mary Frances Mihalakos, Derek Forcher, Damon Griffin, Shane Robinson, Jeff Synhorst, Lucien Hagler-Haloftis, Eddie Huffman

**28** Bob Sprague, Jeff Pierce, John Ellis, Kathy McClure, Michelle Wiener

**29** Ruth Hopper, John Prickett, Barbara Mazzeo, Dana Shepperd, Jeb Brown

**30** Norma Murphy, Freda Hanley, Chris Young, Sarah Jenkins

**31** Jean McGinness, Betty Sacchetti, Cinda Cheshier, Jennifer Young

## Transfiguration staff

**Jerry D. Godwin**  
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**The Vestry**  
*Cassie Bledsoe, Lynn Cearley, Nancy Clagett, Bruce Culver, Judy Drotman, Bill Evans, Leslie Hudson, David Huff, Jim Jenkins, Stephen Kabl, Chris Rodgers, Steve Skoog*

**Clerk - Tudi Owens**  
**Treasurer - Bob Button**  
**Assistant Treasurer - Bob Keeler**  
**Parish Chancellor - Jay Madrid**

## Schedule of services

**WEDNESDAY**  
6:00 p.m.

■  
**THURSDAY**

12:00 p.m.

■  
**SATURDAY**

5:30 p.m.

■  
**SUNDAY**

7:30, 9:00\*,  
11:15\* a.m.

\* Childcare available

### EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

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