

W O R S H I P
F E L L O W S H I P
L E A R N I N G
O U T R E A C H



Stewardship 2010

T I M E & T A L E N T

**Church of the
Holy Apostles**

TIME & TALENT

"How can I repay the Lord for all His goodness to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord."

– Psalms 116:12-13

We are a dynamic, remarkable community, and unusual in the degree of lay-led activities that reach the homeless, serve communion and provide fellowship to shut-ins, maintain our focus through worship, music and meditation, and create a sense of community around special outreach projects.

Approximately 60 - 65% of our parishioners of all ages and interests participate in these various ministries as their time and talents dictate. If you like to arrange flowers, teach a class, coach sports, nurture seedlings, greet people, sing, build a house, ensure food pantries are stocked, knit afghans, or you-name-it, there are numerous opportunities for you to serve Holy Apostles and serve countless voices and faces unknown.

Please read through this brochure and see how you can use your skills, interests, and experiences in service as part of the mission and ministry of Holy Apostles. Whether you only have an hour or two per year or a few hours per month to give to these dynamic programs at Holy Apostles, you will be blessed in countless ways. Please indicate the interest of each member of your household on the attached time/talent survey so that we can include the energy and passion in our ever-growing ministry opportunities both for the church and the community at large.

Remember at whatever level you give of your time and talent, and in whatever form, one thing is certain: it puts God in the center of your life as you serve others.

FELLOWSHIP

Although not technically Time and Treasure, we at Holy Apostles enjoy getting together for fun and fellowship. Opportunities include:

Hospitality Team – Sunday mornings adults gather in the Parish Life Center for refreshments and fellowship. Wonderful snacks are prepared by this awesome team. Volunteers are needed to shop, chop, serve, and clean – it's easy and fun.

Koinonia Dinner Groups – are small dinner groups (usually four or five couples/individuals per group) which meet about once a month to share a meal in one another's homes. The groups are a great way to get to know a few fellow church family members really well.

Men's Group – gathers several times a year to go to dinner together, meet for breakfast, or put on a fun activity for the church.

Saints Alive! – is a wonderful opportunity for the adults of Holy Apostles to gather for good food and great fun in the home of a fellow parishioner.

Serendipity Supper – The first Wednesday of the month we have an old-timey potluck supper at 6:30 p.m. Everybody brings a covered dish or a dessert and we all enjoy the serendipity of the meal.

Sewing Guild – Each Monday we gather in the Parish Life Center to stitch and chat together. During 2009 several of the members made quilts and blankets for the NICU unit at The Med. The knitted blankets are used mainly for the stillborn babies for their pictures then the blankets are sent home with the parents.

Sports and Recreation – Our Parish Life Center is a great place to play basketball, volleyball and other sports. If you'd like to help organize an event or coach a sport there is a great place for you.

Women of Holy Apostles – plans a wide variety of events for fellowship, spiritual growth and service.

WORSHIP

All of us are called to participate in worship, which forms the heart of our liturgical life together. At Holy Apostles, a number of groups assist in worship leadership, and regular training is provided for those who would like to be a participant.

Acolytes – Children and youth in the 4th grade and above serve as special assistants at the altar, playing a significant and visible role during our Sunday worship and at all of our principal Feasts throughout the year. Undertaking various duties, acolytes typically serve as the crucifers, torchbearers, gospel book bearers and banner-bearers during our processions, and are the first sign of our joint call to worship and serve.

Adult Choir – is open to anyone 18 years and above – no experience is necessary. Whether you sing well in a group or have a voice made for solos, there is a place for you. The choir helps bolster congregational singing at two services each week in expressing the divine and the infinite through voice, music, and text.

Altar Guild – lovingly prepares the chancel for all church services in service to the Lord. They meticulously arrange all the vessels and linens used in worship and then reverently clean and store them after use. A team of five or more people serves each week.

Boys and Girls Choir – Children in grades one through five gather each week for musical games and singing as they learn to make a joyful noise to the Lord. In addition to learning simple vocal techniques, music history and appreciation for excellence in music, they lead congregational singing and offer an anthem during one service a month.

Bread Bakers – lovingly prepare home-baked loaves of bread which are used at each Holy Eucharist. We also send small loaves of bread home with visitors to Holy Apostles. The recipe is a beloved tradition and has been a consistent part of our worship for many years. We knead you!

Children's Chapel – Children in kindergarten and younger leave during the sermon to have an age-appropriate experience of the day's gospel lesson. Adults lead the program and teens help as well.

Eucharistic Ministers – are licensed by the Bishop to administer the wine to the congregation during Eucharist at the Sunday morning services. At the 5:15 p.m. Sunday service, the Eucharistic Minister also reads the lessons, leads the Prayers of the People, and assists the Priest in setting the table.

Flower Guild – purchases and arranges flowers to adorn the sanctuary. Net proceeds from the purchase of flowers go to support Our Little Roses, a safe haven for abused and abandoned girls in Honduras. If you have a knack for creative seasonal floral arrangements this is perfect for you.

Intercessors – lead the Prayers of the People during the Sunday morning services, making them truly the prayers of the people. Intercessors sit with their families in the congregation until time for the prayers and then return to their seats afterwards.

Lectors – proclaim the day's Old Testament and New Testament readings and lead the Psalms during Sunday morning services. Like Intercessors, Lectors sit with their families for the bulk of the service, only coming to the lectern to read.

Master of the Bread – assists the clergy by offering the consecrated bread to the congregation during the Holy Eucharist at the Sunday services.

Oblationers – carry forward and present the bread and wine on behalf of the congregation at the offertory. Serving as an oblation bearer is a good way to mark a special occasion such as an anniversary or birthday, and is a fantastic ministry for godparents and their godchildren.

Ushers – serve as greeters to welcome folks arriving for services and to make newcomers feel at home. During the service they collect the offering and guide folks to communion, and after the service they seek out new families to send them home with visitors' bags.

OUTREACH

Our commitment to helping those in need is one of the hallmarks of Holy Apostles. Each year we participate in a wide variety of projects including:

Backpack Project – Each summer we gather and distribute school supplies to needy children through the Emmanuel Episcopal Center as well as through several local schools.

Book Drive – Parishioners are encouraged to donate books for the annual Book Drive to benefit the inmates at Jail East. Details are announced in the church bulletin and the *ACTS* Newsletter.

Blood Drive and Health Fair – Our annual Blood Drive and Wellness Fair, held in October each year, provides the opportunity to give the gift of life by donating blood. Blood pressure screenings and flu shots are also available.

Christmas Outreach Project – We adopt children through the Emmanuel Episcopal Center's Adopt-a-Child program. Then we purchase wonderful Christmas gifts for the children, wrap them, and deliver them.

Collierville Food Pantry – Holy Apostles' volunteers help gather, organize, and distribute food to our hungry neighbors. In the past year – during Lent and just prior to Thanksgiving – we held food drives that collected over a ton of food for the pantry.

Collierville Literacy Council – Holy Apostles provides volunteers to tutor adults in Collierville and the surrounding areas who want to increase their basic reading skills, prepare for GED, and learn English as a second language. We experience joy at seeing area residents being able to read (for the first time) prescription labels and product label warnings, to write checks, to search the internet, and to read to their children and grandchildren.

Collierville Volunteer Community Garden – Do you enjoy the outdoors? Do you like to plant seeds and nourish tender sprouts? Do you like to pick delicious okra, squash, corn, and peas? Then you'd enjoy being a part of the Collierville Volunteer Community Garden, located on the grounds of the Collierville Christian Church. The healthy fresh vegetables from this amazing organic garden are donated to local agencies such as the Collierville Food Pantry and the Page Robbins Adult Daycare Center.

Grocery Card Program – Do you buy groceries? If you register your grocery card at Kroger or Schnucks, a small portion of your purchases are credited and returned to Holy Apostles. Monies collected in the past have been used to purchase our playground equipment, and in support of such charities as Heifer International, Memphis Street Ministries, and MIFA.

Habitat for Humanity – Members of Holy Apostles work alongside those who will be living in the homes to build safe, healthy, and affordable housing for those who need it. Habitat provides all the supplies and oversight, so folks of any skill level can find meaningful jobs on this project. If you can swing a hammer or wield a brush, your help is needed.

Mission Trips – Each summer our youth with adult chaperones plan a mission trip. In 2009 they traveled with others from Church of the Holy Communion to Bay St. Louis, Mississippi to help with efforts to restore their community from the devastation of Hurricane Katrina.

More Than a Meal – On the fourth Sunday of each month Holy Apostles' volunteers help prepare and serve a hot meal for More Than a Meal at Grace-St. Luke's Church in Memphis. Additionally, we donate desserts or sandwiches for the estimated 1200 guests annually.

Page Robbins Cookouts – Several times a year we serve a delicious cookout-style meal to the senior ladies and gentlemen of the Page Robbins Adult Daycare Center.

Project Package – Each month Holy Apostles provides volunteers who organize and pack care packages to be shipped to Mid-South troops.

Warm Up America – Women and children of the parish participate in this nationwide knitting and crocheting project to benefit Moriah House, the women's shelter of Memphis Union Mission.

PASTORAL CARE

Card Ministry – We encourage our members by sending them cards on their birthdays and anniversaries.

Helping Our Own People (HOOP) – When a parishioner is ill or grieving, HOOP responds with food, flowers, and other expressions of love and encouragement.

Hospital Visits – The clergy like to visit patients regularly when they are in the hospital. If you are going to be in the hospital or know of someone who is, please help us care for you and your loved ones by calling before admission to the hospital, calling us when condition or location changes, and calling us before discharge. Holy Apostles' pastoral care team can continue to care, even after you've arrived at home.

Intercessory Prayer Group – Each Friday the Prayer Team gathers to lift up the needs of our parishioners and those they love. You're welcome to come pray with the group any time.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors – are licensed by the Bishop to bring communion to those who aren't able to attend church. This ministry is a wonderful way to include those in hospitals or nursing homes in our family, since they'll receive bread and wine that was consecrated at our Sunday services.

Page Robbins Devotionals – The second and fourth Tuesdays of each month we gather at the Page Robbins Adult Daycare Center at 10:45 a.m. to sing, pray, and worship together with some of their clients. It's a wonderful chance to share God's love with some lonely folks.

Prayer List – As Christians in a faith community, we invite you to share names of those who are in need of prayer. We offer these concerns in weekly worship, in individual times of prayer and through the Intercessory Prayer group. We also do our best to maintain the prayer list and ask for your cooperation in doing so. Typically, we will keep someone on the list for one month unless otherwise requested. You may call the office if you would like to make that request, or fill out a prayer request card found in the pews. If you need to speak with Fr. John about any pastoral concerns, please do not hesitate to call or email him.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Adult Formation – There are many offerings in which adults can lead or participate. These include: Wednesday Bible Study, New Testament Bible Study, Adult Forum, Lenten Series, Bible Workbench, Education for Ministry, Explorers Class, and Book Club.

Children's Formation – Preschool children experience the stories of their faith through Godly Play and children from Kindergarten through Grade 5 use an educational series entitled Mustard Seed. Teachers are needed to help children interpret parables, sacred stories, and biblical events.

Children and Youth Events – We always need extra hands to help organize our one-time events like holiday parties, Rite13 receptions, progressive dinners, Epiphany Pageant, Youth Sunday, and Vacation Bible School. Could you help on a short-term basis? Kids love to eat...and feeding them is a big part of our community building. Would you be willing to prepare one quick and easy meal (hotdogs, sandwiches, spaghetti, etc.) and bring it to the church? Would you be willing to make a donation so we can order pizza for the teens? Will you be a driver for our crew, or chaperone events? Adult help and supervision is needed and greatly appreciated.

Middle School Parent Ministry – offers monthly meetings for adults who want to talk about the issues of raising a Middle Schooler today.

Youth Formation – Journey to Adulthood (J2A) is an all-inclusive Youth Ministry Program. It uses Bible study, prayer, rites of passage, outreach ministries and both serious and playful activities in an age appropriate setting. It is divided into four groups: **Club 56** for rising 5th and 6th graders; **Rite13** for 6th, 7th, 8th graders; **J2A** for 9th and 10th graders; and **YAC** (Young Adults in Church) for 11th and 12th graders. We need energetic adult leaders for these well-structured youth formation classes as well as mentors for Youth Confirmation Class.

COMMITTEES

There are numerous committees and teams that are the engines that drive the successful planning and implementation of the ministries and internal needs of Holy Apostles. These include:

Buildings and Grounds Committee – oversees the maintenance and improvement of our beautiful physical facility and grounds. Skilled volunteers for occasional small repairs – carpentry, plumbing, welding, electrical – are especially welcomed.

Children’s Formation Committee – plans and implements the various offerings for children from birth through fifth grade.

Fellowship Committee – plans and implements the various fellowship events in the parish.

Finance Committee – keeps tabs on the church’s income and expenditures, keeping us good stewards of people’s donations.

Newcomers Committee – plans and implements the various ways we welcome guests into the parish.

Outreach Committee – plans and implements the various ways we reach out to those in need.

Pastoral Care Committee – plans and implements the various ways we reach out to our own members with love and care.

Stewardship Committee – works with the vestry’s vision and goals to design and implement an annual campaign that includes opportunities for parishioners to share their treasure, time and talent.

Worship Committee – plans and implements our worship services and is made up of the heads of each of the ministries that take part in worship.

Youth Formation Committee – plans and implements programming for youth ages sixth through twelfth grades.

ADMINISTRATION

There are numerous on-going administrative needs and opportunities for you to share your time and talents.

History / Archives – If you are a history buff or good with research and documentation there is a place for you – sorting through and organizing our past into an archival format.

Newsletter – Are you a budding journalist, good at wordsmithing or editing copy, or even enjoy proofreading? Then please consider joining the monthly *ACTS* Newsletter team.

Office – We can use help with copying, organizing supplies, folding newsletters and service leaflets, sorting mailings, stuffing the pew racks, and answering phones. There is also a need for someone to coordinate Rally Day and the Time/Talent Surveys.

Photography / Video / Audio – Do you have photography/video or audio skills — recording and editing sermons and the choir, or photographing events such as the annual Pentecost picnic, Vacation Bible School, or Blessing of the Animals? Occasional help is also needed setting up our audio and visual equipment for special events.

Professional – Would you be willing to share your legal, accounting, and other professional knowledge with us?

Sewing – There is an occasional need for the repair of vestments and banners. If you are nifty with the needle, we can use your talent for lengthening hems, repairing tears, or stitching appliqués.

Technology – Are you a computer technician or ‘geek?’ Do you have graphic design or lighting design skills? Can you convert a PDF to a Word doc or use PhotoShop? If any of these are your forte, please share your talents with us.

Website – If you can use a computer and keyboard you would enjoy helping update the website with weekly announcements, readings and ministry schedules. Training is provided.

MISSION

To provide a welcoming community in which all can, with open hearts and open minds, receive God's Grace through worship, fellowship, learning, and outreach to others.



Church of the Holy Apostles

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The Rt. Rev. Don E. Johnson, Bishop of West Tennessee
The Rev. John P. Leach, Rector