



# *The Trumpet*

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## *of the Church of the Holy Nativity*

### Farewell to VBS

Well it's been one special year for Vacation Bible School. We always have a little drama to go with VBS every year. It's Satan's way of trying to bring us down. We have always prevailed because we have Jesus on the winning team! One year it rained and rained and rained but we just moved everything inside including the cookout and the animals! Another year when I was very sick, Bud and Tony handled everything (we still won)! Last year we had a hole in the side of the parish hall but we patched it and went on!

This year is the year to say goodbye. Phil & I are turning the reins over to someone else. My right hand man Bud Marecek is retiring as well. We all feel like it's time for some new blood to take over and expand what we started. It's been a joyful ride and we will miss all the wonderful faith-filled volunteers. I have a long list to thank but I can't begin to list every single person because it would take the whole newsletter. I always will remember each of you in my heart and prayers. You have done so much for us in your own special way. Without you Vacation Bible School would have been nothing. We needed every smile, every hand, every silly thing that was done, and of course every heart that you touched. You don't realize all of the people you have touched and how God's word spreads from what you started. I don't think any of us realize what we are doing but sometimes we just feel it's the right thing because we are asked by God to do his work. Sometimes we say yes and sometimes we say no but God gets us involved like he did with Jonah (which was what we studied this last week at VBS!).

Again, to each and every one of you, thank you for working with me, pushing me to improve each year, and for loving me even with my faults, I love you all, Carolee. *For the Glory of God*



## Stewardship Matters

Giving levels have picked up a bit. We are thankful for that. However, we have not received a pledge card from many parishioners. This is a bit perplexing. Perhaps we have been unclear. We sent out pledge cards to be filled out and returned. Rather than a dollar amount, we asked that a percentage of gross income be noted. Then the card was to be sealed in an envelope with the giver's name on the outside and returned. The only person to see the pledge percentage would be Fr. Garrin. As our priest, he has a pastoral obligation to be aware of the stewardship response of each of us,

Why does this matter? It matters because filling out a pledge card is a disciplined response to stewardship. A promise prayed about and put on paper has more personal/spiritual weight than a mere intention to give as convenient. It is an expression of seriousness about our responsibility as stewards of God's abundance.

So, I ask those who have not already done so to fill out and return a pledge card. If the one you received is misplaced, extras are in the Narthex basket.

Lastly, we are in summer and travel time for many. Please keep your contributions current during this period. The parish's expenses continue month to month. We cannot afford a drop in giving. Rather than play "catch up" on your return, try to pay ahead.

Jon

Jonathan Browne

# From Your Seminarian

by Perry Mullins



On September 6th, I will begin working on a Masters in Divinity at the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Texas. As I prepare myself to begin this new chapter in my life, I have to think about the chapters that are coming to a close. It's especially bittersweet to be in my last couple of months working as a youth minister in San Antonio. I remember that I felt similarly when I left Holy Nativity five years ago to work on my undergraduate degree in San Antonio.

In early April, I gave a sermon to the youth group at St. Luke's about finding a resolution in the Exodus story, and since then I've been thinking a lot about it. Throughout the Exodus story, God (through Moses) continually promises the people a "land flowing with milk and honey." He is promising them a resolution to the incredibly difficult story they're living. And when they reach the land, they survey it, and they realize that they have reached the resolution, or the end, of that part of their story.

Their decision, at that point, isn't about whether that chapter of their collective story is ending, but how it will end. Will they take care of the land and cause it to prosper? Will they accept foreigners with open arms, remembering that they were once foreigners in a strange land? Will they continue to worship the God who brought them into such incredible bounty? Or will they let themselves drift toward complacency, becoming too proud of their accomplishment, and forget about the greatness of the Lord?

With such incredible lessons in so many of our stories, we, like the Israelites, would be remiss to waste them. Each of our stories has a lesson—sometimes many of them. As one narrative ends and another begins, how can we let God mold us through our past experiences in a positive way?

These are a few of the questions I have been pondering as I move forward with seminary and begin so many new chapters in my life. It is a time of excitement for Sarah and me. Excitement and preparation. And we are happy to be taking what we have learned with us and moving forward to continue seeking God's call for us in seminary and beyond.

On September 6th at 8:00am, I will be sitting in a classroom starting a journey that will last me three years and will influence the remainder of my life. I am thrilled to begin this chapter of my life, and I am also happy as I look back with joy on those that are closing. Please keep Sarah and me in your prayers as we begin this new chapter in our lives.

In Christ,  
Perry



# Stephen Ministry

BOUNDARIES- When to Say Yes, When to Say No,  
To Take Control of Your Life

*by Henry Cloud and John Townsend.*

The authors are Christian psychologists and inspirational speakers and writers. (Zondervan is a Christian publishing house.) Boundaries is a winner of the Gold Medallion Book Award in Recognition of Excellence in Evangelical Christian Literature, and is Biblically-based. It is well-known in the secular world as well, having been discussed on national talk shows, and it has sold over 700,000 copies. It is available in all book stores. The Plano Public Library has 3 hardback and 5 paperback copies (248.4 CLO).

The intention is to show readers how to set reasonable boundaries in order to follow the true path of Christianity. This book has become immensely popular, most likely because it makes personal boundaries easier to define and is filled with spiritual purpose, drawing on Biblical principles. The book discusses setting limits in many areas of your life, including at work, at home, with your parents, spouse, children, friends, etc. It answers many difficult questions, such as, ‘Can I set limits and still be a loving person?’, ‘Why do I feel guilty or afraid when I consider setting boundaries?’, ‘Are boundaries selfish?’, and ‘What if someone is upset or hurt by my boundaries?’

Boundaries lists and talks about the Ten Laws of Boundaries, such as The Law of Sowing and Reaping, The Law of Responsibility, The Law of Respect, The Law of Envy, and The Law of Power. It defines what a boundary is and discusses how to set boundaries in your life. The book also includes information on how others will react when you set limits, and the types of resistance you may encounter. And throughout, scripture is quoted and used.

Some of you will recall a few years ago when Fr. Garrin, Vivienne McNeny, and I (Marilyn Browne) resented a video series in adult forum on Sunday morning which was based on this book. If you haven’t read the book yet, consider this your reminder.

**Adult Forum/Sunday School** At the Adult Sunday School we are discussing various Lenten discipline considerations based on the book, *Barefoot Disciple, Walking the Way of Passionate Humility* by Canon Stephen Cherry of Durham Cathedral. Reading the book is optional. The Forum meets between the two services in the parish hall. Join us every Sunday or drop in when you can, from 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

The Women's Bible Study will begin a new study on Thursday, September 1st. Ya'll come at 9:30 a.m. for the Introductory session. The exact study is yet to be determined but it will feature Beth Moore, and/or Priscilla Shirer. We will meet every Thursday from 9:30 to 11:30 (or 12:00 depending on the length of the video presentation). Call or email for questions, times, babysitting, cost of student books, etc. Marilyn Browne 972-867-5857 [fiskusbrownne@hotmail.com](mailto:fiskusbrownne@hotmail.com)

**Mercy Ships July Needs:**

The Mercy Ships program needs pocket folders, dry erase fine pt. assorted markers, tissue paper, pipe cleaners, blunt tip scissors, bright yarn, size 9 & 10 crochet needles, black socks.

**Intercessory Prayer** – is offered every Sunday morning after both services. Please come to the altar rail and a Stephen Minister will offer private prayer for your request, whether for yourself or for another's need.

**Tuesday Night Bible Group** - Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m., in the parish hall; Summer Series: 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel; come, you're welcome anytime.

**Mass is offered** at 12:10 Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and 7:30 a.m. Saturdays. If you are praying for people, attend and offer them to the Lord in the Eucharistic meal.

**Vestry Meeting** – August 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.





## PERRY MULLINS' SEMINARY FUND

Perry Mullins is a member of this congregation and has recently graduated for the University of Texas in San Antonio with honors. He feels called to the Sacred Priesthood and has been recommended and accepted to start his Seminary studies in September 2011.

There is an account set up to collect funds from the parish to assist Perry in his pursuit. If you feel called to help Perry follow his calling, please make your check out to Holy Nativity with the memo stating, "Perry Mullins Seminary Fund".

This is expected to be a three year commitment and we pray that Holy Nativity will support Perry in this Sacred calling with your prayers and your financial support. Thank you! Your Vestry

**PARISH FAMILY:** Vibert LaMaison, Don Webb, Pinkie Webb, Stephanie Gentry, Sid Bigby, Sarah Niday, Joyce Eberle, Virginia Brandon, Nona Light, Carol Wright, Ed Simmons, Louise Turner, Geri Carpenter, Pat Sessions, **Bill Shrewsbury**, Bonnie Jean Chase, Bill Backvold, Rob Backvold, Ginny Hale, Marty Johnston, Ann Vibbert, Bud Marecek, Ben Moore, Stephanie Hilton, George Belshaw, Justin Clark, Sue Adams, Isabel Kirscht, Bob Braack, Sharon Macduff, Juanita Frances, Nancy Darley, **Frances Andersen**, Helen Rhine, Richard Gay, Marge Shrewsbury, Chris Tao, Amy Strow, Richard Kincaid, Patty Dahlberg, Phil Wylie

**FRIENDS & FAMILY:** Kiersten\*, Tavis, Sean\*, Jim\*, Bernice\*, Miriam (Tex), Jessie\*, Robert\*, Beth\*, Allison, Allyson\*, Merrell\*, Jane\*, Dean\*, David\*, Grover\*, Irina\*, Donnie\*, Brian\*, Ginny\*, Leldon\*, Jonathan, Cherry, Ron+, Barbara\*, Ronnie\*, Donna\*, Clara\*, Ronald\*, Clenet, Peggy\*, Jane, Howard\*, Ann & family, Charly\*, Rebecca, Ron+, Laura, Jan, Abbey, Ann, Kristin Shawn, John, Julia, Angie, Jerry, Denton, Sara, Linda, Kathy, Bill, Debbie, Billy, Erin, Gordan (Woody), Lindsay

**Mission Team: August 5 – August 14**

Fr. Garrin, Eleanor Dickinson, Fr. Noe Mendez, Erika Kinder, Melissa Kunz, Grace Wright, Mario & Dora Fajardo, Olinda Sheppard, Frida Terceros, Juan Chavez & Joel Zuniga

**SERVING IN THE MILITARY:** Vernon Allison, Karl Anker, Norman Bodley, Frank Colon, Kevin Fralish, Devin Frank, Jesse Gerber, Brice Glasscock, Aaron Greenhaw, P. J. Grube, Mark Jones, Nathan Jones, Orion Jones, Glenn King, Christopher Kirscht, James Kirscht, Bengamin Luker, Nick Mitchell, Brett Muse, Brian Patton, Greg Phillips, Todd Prichard, Dion Quintanilla IV, Anthony Rives, Edward Matthew Schmidt, Timothy Shrewsbury, Garrett Stevens, Albert Tao, Rob Taylor, Patrick Webb

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Awak Bior         | 1  |
| Tony Foust        | 2  |
| Christine Phipps  | 2  |
| Bill Smith        | 4  |
| Craig Fischer     | 5  |
| Kevin Redmon      | 5  |
| Carole Fitzgerald | 6  |
| Jeff Wright       | 6  |
| Patricia Bryson   | 8  |
| Morgan Gerber     | 8  |
| Sandy Smith       | 9  |
| David Wright      | 9  |
| Arlie Coles       | 9  |
| Melanie Gerber    | 12 |
| Mary Dickinson    | 13 |
| Mary Anne Doty    | 13 |
| Jane Foust        | 15 |
| Dee Miller        | 19 |
| John Pankratz     | 19 |
| Joyce Eberle      | 20 |
| Riley Gerber      | 20 |
| Emma Forshaw      | 24 |
| Gene Matthews     | 25 |
| Monk Montgomery   | 25 |
| Ben Moore         | 27 |
| Dolores LaMaison  | 29 |
| Joseph Onyendi    | 30 |

### AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

|                         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| Richard & Venus Gay     | 3  |
| Jimmy & Mary Anne Doty  | 4  |
| John & Christine Phipps | 7  |
| Hans & Melissa Kunz     | 14 |
| Carl & Louanne Whatley  | 30 |

# VBS 2011



July 18th-22nd 2011  
Holy Nativity Church  
2200 18th Street

What can I say this year that hasn't already been said from years past? It was great, wonderful, awesome, fantastic, the best year ever? I'd say, it was all the above! It was great because we had great curriculum with great volunteers teaching it. Great volunteers which were willing to cover each other when life got in the way of someone not being able to be there. It was wonderful because we had such wonderful snacks! Wow! Every day was delicious!!

This year was awesome because we had such wonderful bible stories such as Jonah and the whale (a whale of a good time!). This year was fantastic because we had sunshine every day and lots of water to keep from getting too hot!

We had the best volunteers – jumping in and decorating the Saturday before we started VBS. What a great job all of you did with the kids; acting or teaching or guiding each student. I heard such good stories Friday night that came from the kids and their parents about what the kids said they learned. It's wonderful to hear feedback about what we do – good or bad (it was all good!!!).

Some of the staff said this was the best year ever. The best year ever!! Wow. What can I say? You volunteers are the ones that made it happen. Someone said to me that I let God mold me. I just prayed and God did the work. He has molded each of his workers and teaches us while he is helping us teach others.

From the bottom of my heart, let God continue to teach and mold you for the next year and make it be the best year ever, every year after.

Blessings,  
Carolee



***NOTICE! The printed Trumpet newsletter is  
available for pick-up in the Narthex.***

***You may download your own copy  
of the electronic format at [www.holynativity.org](http://www.holynativity.org)***

**The Rt. Rev'd James M. Stanton, The Bishop of Dallas  
The Rt. Rev'd Paul E. Lambert, Bishop Suffragan  
The Rev'd Fr. Garrin W. Dickinson, Rector  
The Rev'd Canon John W. Kline, Priest Associate  
The Rev'd Fr. Noe Mendez, Spanish Speaking Ministry  
Mrs. Patricia Montalbo, Church Musician  
Mrs. Allison Maybery, Parish Secretary**

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