

# the SPIRIT

A Newsletter from  
**The Church of the Holy Spirit**  
Currently Meeting at Pedrotti Ranch  
13715 FM 1560 (Hausmann Rd)  
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Called Back to the Well



**YOUTH GROUP  
SCAVENGER HUNT**  
*by Marissa Scholler*

### **FEAST OF ST. MICHAEL CELEBRATED WITH JAZZ**

There aren't too many churches that have two Name Days to celebrate as Holy Spirit does. Among our other attributes as a congregation and kindred to our fair city, Holy Spirit knows how to "party" and does it well. In June, a Blue Grass Mass was held to celebrate Pentecost and now the Feast of St. Michael's was celebrated with Jazz.

The professional Small World Jazz Band joined with the Holy Spirit choir and musicians to add authenticity to the music for a Jazz Mass. The two groups complimented each other beautifully. The upbeat and joyful music had feet throughout the congregation moving with the beat. A record crowd of 161 people attended the mass, including Bishop Foltz and Mrs. Foltz who came to share in our celebration.

The highlight of the service was when Gene Dowdy, Kurt Van de Walle and the rest of the Sacred Space team came to the front of the sanctuary to unveil the scale model of our new building on Bandera Road. After looking at pictures for months, seeing it in three dimension made it even more exciting. The model will remain on display on Sunday mornings.

At the conclusion of the service the sanctuary area was quickly transformed into an additional dining area complete with table decorations. The line of people that would file by six buffet tables piled with food, reached to the rear doors of the next ballroom. As the congregation and guests ate their lunch, fellowship was shared by all. With glorious weather outside and a room full of family and friends, what more could we ask for.

On Saturday, September 17th, the Holy Spirit Youth Group was invited to several church members' homes for the purpose of helping out with household chores, such as painting, mowing lawns, and pulling weeds. It was a perfect opportunity for the youth members to share their time and talents with church members in need.

Alison and Baylee Lindgren



**CALLED BACK TO THE WELL**  
*by Sally Lindsay*

I don't feel that I have a relationship with God.

To me a relationship is something external, something that lasts or doesn't last.

I am glad my relationship with geometry is over. I know the misery caused by mold and mildew and tree pollen will be a relationship that will probably last the rest of my life. I hope my relationship with books and Louis Armstrong singing Mack the Knife never end.

*"...each of us, a tiny creation of*

## Getting to Know You at Holy Spirit

*by Barbara Cavazos*

### THE LINDGREN FAMILY

On Sunday, October 2, Baylee Lindgren, dressed in a precious white dress, celebrated her fourth birthday at Holy Spirit Church. At coffee hour, following the service, she wore a chocolate cupcake on her face in such a delicious way that everyone was wishing they had one, too.

Baylee is the youngest daughter of Cheryl and Donald Lindgren and the younger sister of Alison Lindgren. The Lindgren's were part of the uniting of St. Michael's and Holy Spirit last September and have become an integral part of this Christian community.

Cheryl's family moved from California to San Antonio in her junior year of high school, where she attended John Marshall. Her father retired from Civil Service and San Antonio became home. She met Donald in 1998 just as he was ending his enlistment with the Army and about to go to work as a civilian government computer contractor for the US Air Force. They were married in 2003 and his job took him to most of the states in the U.S. Alison, their little "Georgia Peach", was born in Warner Robbins, GA.

Donald's parents had moved to Gulfport, MS to be near his brother, who had been diagnosed with a brain tumor, and they stayed there after his brother passed away in 2000. Donald and Cheryl planned to settle in Mississippi to be near them. In 2005 they decided to make the move to Gulfport, only to have Hurricane Katrina hit the area with such a vengeance that all of their plans had to change. They evacuated to Wichita Falls and stayed with relatives until a job came up in San Antonio and they headed back, staying with Cheryl's parents so she could help her Dad take care of her mother who had suffered a stroke. Donald's current job with Army South still involves computers and has also taken him to exotic places. With the cherished addition of Baylee to the family, the Lindgren's moved into their home off 1560 in the Alamo Ranch area. The girls attend Scarborough Elementary where Alison is in the third grade and Baylee attends pre-school half days.

Donald and Cheryl were both raised in a military environment so they were exposed to many different styles of church services. Cheryl was baptized Roman Catholic but was confirmed in the Episcopal Church as a teenager. Donald was baptized twice as a young child, in the respective churches of both sets of grandparents.

When the family came to San Antonio, they visited several churches but did not attend regularly until Alison went to a Lutheran pre-school and after being part of a Kids of the Kingdom program there, begged for the Lindgren's to go to church as a family. Honoring her daughter's request, Cheryl got in her car, not knowing exactly where she was going, and passed by St. Michael's, where she had attended when she lived here before. She stopped to see how it had developed and after a few visits, the family ended up becoming an active part of the congregation. Cheryl served as a Eucharistic Minister, helped with Sunday School and the Nursery and Alison was an acolyte. Both girls were baptized at Saint Michael's by Bishop Gary Lillibridge. The Lindgren family was happy in their new church home.

However, after only one year of being at St. Michael's, the discussion on joining congregations with Holy Spirit became serious, and eventually

***God and a part of the Body of Christ might in like manner contain the very essence of God's image, through Christhood, within our own souls, and in our embodiment."***

I have God in my very being.

I am learning from my participation in Called Back to the Well that I need to pay attention to that part of me that is my soul - the part He will take back to Himself someday. I need to turn myself inside out to put the unseen, but felt, element at the forefront of my existence. I need to quiet myself and make time spent listening to Him as important as breathing and roasting veggies and taking my antihistamines and testing my blood sugar. I need to make my prayer life as important as a meal, to acknowledge that my questions and ponderings, are, as Gerald May wrote, "**(a) hunger for God, given by God.**" I need to have rituals in my daily life when I am away from my church rituals.

A couple of months ago, the dishwasher didn't drain. After I sopped up the excess water, I pulled out the dish rack from the cabinet and Lynn and I started doing dishes by hand. I really enjoyed spending that time with him, visiting, slowing down; when I did them on my own, I had time to watch the birds outside, and think about my grand-kids, and just have quiet time when I didn't have to think at all. I like the time at my sewing machine - creative and quiet and necessary. I like holding a sleeping baby in my arms, feeling its little heart beating, tiny head on my shoulder, being needed. I like to sit on the couch with Lynn at the end of a long day, not speaking, just being together. I am practicing those little moments of grace and quiet during our Called Back to the Well meetings. I am given food for thought - prayers from Thomas Merton, the above quote from Gerald May, points of view from the other participants.

These are gifts to tie up with a ribbon and keep in my heart.

To continue to nurture the growth of my soul.

I love being around kindred spirits. And I love the fact that at our meetings, we are on the same page - we are yearning to be

Cheryl's new found church family would change, making the transition difficult for her. Her feeling of loss was compounded when her mother passed away on June 29th, 2011. Father Jason guided the family through this difficult time, but grief would lead Cheryl through an emotional fog for the summer. As it subsided, and she became more familiar with the new community of Holy Spirit, she began to embrace it. She now serves as a Coffee Hostess, is a member of the Women's Group, a new member of the Altar Guild, and is in the process of becoming a Eucharistic Visitor.

Being a "Stay-at Home Mom", Cheryl has a 24-7 career. Besides caring for her home and family and church responsibilities, she volunteers at the girl's school, is a Troop Leader for Alison's Brownie Troop, and now that Alison is taking Karate, finds herself a "Karate Mom." Cheryl is also the "mother" of Abby, a blue heeler, and two black cats named Samantha and Sabrina (yes, named for the witches on TV.) She said all of this doesn't leave her much time for anything else.

Not only are we blessed with having the Lindgren Family as part of our Church Family, Cheryl's dad, Craig Peterman, is also coming to Sunday services with them.

Alison has been active in the Brownie Division of the Girl Scouts since she was in 1st grade and recently traded her soccer playing for Karate. After only one month, she has already earned her Yellow Belt. She also plays guitar. Alison loves being at Holy Spirit because there are more girls to play with. She immediately became an Acolyte here and serves with dedication and maturity.

Baylee attends half-day pre-school at Scarborough. She takes ballet lessons and played a little soccer this summer. Baylee idolizes her big sister and tries to do everything Alison does. We are so fortunate to have these beautiful little girls as the future of our congregation. The vision of that chocolate cupcake that Baylee so enjoyed on her birthday will forever be on our minds and we look forward to spending all of her birthdays with her.

### REV. KELLY INITIATED INTO THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

The special guest at the September meeting of Holy Spirit's ECW was Kelly Conkling, our new Assistant Vicar. It was her first ECW meeting at Holy Spirit and as she was treated to the pot-luck spread worthy of honorable guests, she was introduced to the culinary skills of many of its members.

The theme of the last few ECW meetings has been "Getting to Know Us Better." The candid sharing of personal and spiritual journeys at those meetings not only created a sisterhood of understanding, but brought the rejuvenation of our purpose to serve God in our activities. Kelly graciously stepped out of her "priestly" role to become another woman in the group of 20 to share openly the story of her own background, her family, her personal spirituality and this new assignment at Holy Spirit. Kelly's main focus for Holy Spirit will be Pastoral Care and she not only discussed some of her ideas with the group, but also asked for their input on what they would like to see happen in that area.

At the end of the evening, everyone had not only connected with the newest addition to the Holy Spirit community in an "up close and personal" way, but also welcomed a new friend.

closer to God in us whether we are lay or clergy.

I don't have a relationship with God because what He has, and continues to give me isn't something that starts or stops or fades or breaks, but has always been and always will be. And through Called Back to the Well I am practicing more habits to exercise and strengthen the flourishing of my spirit, the element of me that is God.

***NOTE: Called Back to the Well is an extended Spiritual Renewal and Leadership workshop being held at the Oblate Center. Seventeen of Holy Spirit's faithful answered the open invitation to attend this workshop which called for a commitment to a few weekly meetings and several fall Saturdays. Sally is one of the 17.***

## SEE HOW WE GROW

*by Barbara Cavazos*

It was 9:00 on Sunday morning as I came around the curve into the Pedrotti parking lot and I looked quickly at my clock to see if I was late. The parking lot was so full that I had to start a second row. Surely my clock must have stopped, so I looked at my watch, but it agreed with the time on my dashboard clock.

I walked quickly to the sanctuary area to find our ever-growing choir getting ready to rehearse, and was grateful that I wasn't late after all, but where were all the cars from? In continuing my investigation, I noticed Taylor Bailey and Keira Quarles seated at a long table in the coffee area with several teenagers. This must be the confirmation class. I walked into the adjoining ballroom to find three other groups meeting in various corners of the huge room. Tom McCarty was in the right rear corner with several other adults and I realized his Anglican Essentials for Adults Class was meeting there. Next to the coffee area, John Perkins' Adult Bible Study had filled up one of the large round tables. Toward the office doors, Karen Callihan had the remainder of the teenagers in her 6th-8th grade Sunday School class. Still curious, I kept going to the office area where Robyn had a long table filled with 1st through 5th graders in their Sunday School class and several toddlers were in the nursery. It was 9:00 on Sunday morning and in the space that we had access to at Pedrotti's that had once seemed to be so massive, we were overflowing. What a great problem for us to have!!

On top of all this, I found out that Sunday Morning worship service attendance during the month of September had accelerated: 132, 140, 151, 161. And only one of those times was a special occasion, the celebration of the Feast of St. Michael's with a Jazz Mass and Pot luck. Also, Jackie McCarthy had just told us that there were 17 children in Spirit Time on Sunday mornings. Each Sunday, we welcome more and more new faces and to our delight, they return the next Sunday.

As a community, we trusted in God, and he has led us to a fruitful existence. Our new Sacred Space will be the harvest.

***(Right now I have to hide from Jason, because when I mentioned my observation as a basis for this article, I jokingly made the comment that we might be like Northside School District. When it opens a new school, it already has to bring in portables. I think his words were along the lines of "bite your tongue..." but I couldn't be sure because I was quickly getting out of range. There's something about using the word "portables" around Holy Spirit people.)***

