

Summer 2008

# ECHO

Newsletter of the  
Washington Church of the New Jerusalem  
301-464-5602

[www.washingtonnewchurch.org](http://www.washingtonnewchurch.org)

Pastor: Rev. Garry B. Walsh  
11910 Chantilly Lane; Mitchellville, MD 20721  
~~~~~

Assistant Pastor: Rev. Michael E. Ferrell  
320 New Oak Lane, Bowie, MD 20716

---

WCNJ Inc. Treasurer  
Mr. Keith Hyatt  
11911 Chantilly Lane  
Mitchellville, MD 20721

WCNJ Inc. Co-Treasurer  
Mr. Wynne S. Hyatt  
9921 Worrell Avenue  
Glenn Dale, MD 20769

WCNJ Inc. Investment Treasurer  
Mr. Edward Simons  
11910 Progress Lane  
Mitchellville, MD 20721

WCNJ Inc. Secretary  
Mr. William Kunkle  
11911 Progress Lane  
Mitchellville, MD 20721

Echo Editor  
Mrs. David (Bonnie) Cowley  
5724 East Pine Drive  
Riverdale, MD 20737  
secretarywncs@comcast.net

Echo News Notes Editors  
Angela Fields  
C/O *The ECHO*  
fieldsnine@gmail.com

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***Echo Deadline For September Echo is: August 25th***

## **TIME TO ENJOY A DIFFERENT PACE**

Hopefully summer is providing you with an opportunity to slow down a bit and enjoy a change from hustle and bustle that the rest of the year seems to throw our way. A chance to step back from our day-to-day activities is something we all need from time to time. This will be true for all eternity.

Early in the book *Conjugal Love* we find a story of people who had recently passed from this world to the next being given the opportunity to tour heaven

as guests. This was part of their preparation for living there permanently. Along the way they were guided by an angel who told them the following:

"We have days of celebration here, proclaimed by the prince, to relax people's spirits from the fatigue that the drive to excel may have produced in some of them. These days are accompanied by instrumental and choral musical performances in the public squares, and by athletic and theatrical performances outside the city.

"Bandstands are erected in the public squares on such occasions, surrounded by latticework woven out of vines, with clusters of grapes hanging from them. The musicians sit inside in three tiers, with stringed and wind instruments, both high-voiced and low, shrill-voiced and mellow. On either side of them are singers, male and female, and they entertain the citizens with delightful exultation and singing, in concert and solo, varying the type of music periodically. On these days of celebration, such performances last from morning to noon, and after noon till evening" (Conjugal Love 17).

It appears that even angels can burn themselves out if they work too hard for too long. This is a real risk in heaven. Everyone there finds the greatest pleasure in providing their special type of service for others. They pursue usefulness with all their being. But, even the spiritual body and mind cannot sustain this indefinitely. From time to time they need to pause, enjoy good music and good food. They need to play games or simply stop and chat, perhaps read a good book (What other kind would there be in heaven?)

Here's hoping your summer offers a little bit of this. May this be a time for recharging batteries, ready for the busyness that lies ahead.

- Garry

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ENROLLED AND NUMBERED:** Sunday, June 1st Joe and Eva (Odhner) Civitello baptized their darling baby boy Dominic into the New Church! The whole family was there to share the joy.

**NEW CHURCH DAY GIFTS:** By the time you read this, we will have celebrated New Church Day with a lovely banquet, church service and gifts for the children. For those of you new to our program, I would like to explain a little bit about the gifts the children receive. The reason for these gifts is to give our little ones something tangible for them to enjoy that may remind them of the Lord and His love for us. As the children get older, we give gifts to help them set up their own worship center. These gifts include a cover, marker and stand for the Word, a beautiful shadow box, a matted quote, and a lovely candle holder, and a book of the Writings. We leave the privilege of purchasing the

Word for their children up to their parents. Many parents choose to give this precious gift once the child has learned to read.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteers who make this program possible. We have many who donate supplies, time and expertise to making these wonderful gifts. Please teach your children to love and respect these things that were so lovingly made.

Thank you! --Jana Sprinkle,

**PORCH PROJECT:** We have made a great start on the fencing that gives some privacy to the beautiful patio outside of the manse. Each unit of fencing required different preparations of measuring, leveling, digging, and filling. Fortunately, Dean Smith was there to mastermind the engineering and construction challenges. We will be finishing the fencing as soon as possible. Special thanks to all who showed up to help. We had a great time.

**LOST:** Missing : vase, brown, hand thrown with imprints on it's sides, about 10 inches tall, 3 inch across neck opening. Please return to Janna Zuber.

**WANTED** to buy or borrow for the month of August : kiddie gates ( Yes, grand baby is coming to town!!!) - Janna Zuber.

**HOUSING NEEDS:** Friends, with the upcoming wedding of our son Logan to Amanda this Sept. 6, I am looking for housing for a few of the relatives and friends that may be coming to town. It might include Friday the 5th, and Saturday the sixth. Meals would not be expected. If you would like to help us in this venue, we would be ever so grateful!! - Phil and Janna Zuber

**A** lovely setting with early sunlight filtering through the adjacent trees.



The chancel was imaginatively created with seven logs on end, the Word appropriately placed on the tallest one, fresh flowers and candelabras on others. The event was the 7:00 AM June 19<sup>th</sup> open air service on the East side of the soccer field.

The outdoor venue seemed to enhance the sphere of reverence as Pastor Garry Walsh started with a reading from the 21<sup>st</sup> Chapter of Revelation. He followed with an inspiring extemporaneous talk on the meaning of a new earth and new heaven. Not an abstract theological construct, but a message to all of us that

we can in our own small way contribute to the formation of a more angelic heaven.

Our thanks go out to Wystan Simons and her family for constructing our outdoor chapel, including the Herculean task of rolling those logs up from the picnic area.

### ***WNCS Commencement 2008***

*Graduations are always such inspiring occasions. Lovely dresses, handsome young men, proud parents, familiar music and of course a little “Pomp and Circumstance”. This year’s WNCS graduation was no different. Two of our 10th graders, young people who had been with WNCS since Kindergarten, each said their final farewell in a speech. We had two 8th grade graduates as well. The following are transcripts of the speeches beginning with the talk from Rick Bond, one of our 8th grade parents.*



#### ***Graduation Talk by Rick Bond***

I wanted to talk a little bit today about Randy McLanahan. Randy was a kid my age growing up who had some special challenges; in fact, Randy suffered from some severe mental disabilities and he attended special classes, really we never spent much time together.

Unlike the church based school that you attend here, I attended a public school, but at our church, we set aside a week or two each summer for Bible study, something that you do every day here at WNCS. So this was a kind of summer camp devoted to Bible study.

Randy came to Bible study with the rest of us, and it was really the only time that I ever got to know Randy. The first thing that I will tell you about Randy is that is he was always well dressed, jacket and tie, hair perfectly combed, while some of the rest of us were predictably messy, shirttails hanging out a bit as the day wore on, hair a bit messy...and every day we all came in for the Bible study, there sat Randy, smiling and listening with the rest of us. We never really talked to him or got to know him, his big brother Charles was our friend and he sat next to Randy each day in class.

The last day of Bible school we played a game. We were divided into teams, and we stood in lines, and when we got to the front of the line we were asked a question, and the question was from a story in the Bible. The teams got points based on our answers. Of course, we got some right and some wrong, based on our memory from the class and our previous knowledge of the Bible stories we were being quizzed on.

Randy was on my team. With every question, he offered the same answer.

- ◆ Who was discovered in the bulrushes when he was a baby?... **“Zaccheus”**
- ◆ Who slew Goliath with a smooth stone from the brook?... **“Zaccheus”**
- ◆ Who brought the Ten Commandments to the Children of Israel?...  
**“Zaccheus”**

“Zaccheus”, he answered over and over again. He probably answered a dozen questions, always with the same answer, Zaccheus.

Of course, after a while we probably thought that this was kind of funny. And that is all there is the story, except that maybe 30 years later, I sat in church, and the pastor was reading the story of Zaccheus, and I thought again about Randy.

You remember the story of Zaccheus? He had done some things that upset some people; he was not described as being a very nice man. He was very small in stature, very short. This is a story from the Lord’s time on earth, where the Lord was visiting a town and Zaccheus climbed a tree, just so that he could get a glimpse of the Lord.

Imagine how Zaccheus felt. He did not really feel like he was a part of the village, he was not a part of the crowd. There were people in that crowd who were convinced that Zaccheus was not worthy of the Lord’s attention and affections. And, for physical reasons, he could not even join them and expect to see the Lord. So he looked at the Lord from afar, just hoping to get a glimpse of him. But the Lord knew Zaccheus was there, and he called out to Zaccheus. In fact, he singled Zaccheus out, and told Zaccheus that he was coming to his house for dinner that night!

Zaccheus and Randy were very different. But it occurred to me that there was something in that story that moved Randy, something that he understood. He knew what it felt like to be mistreated and ignored by others. He knew what it felt like to be outside of the crowd. He knew what it felt like to be almost

invisible, just trying to see the Lord. And the Lord sent Randy a message, he said “I see you there. I care about you.”

Like Zaccheus, the Lord reached out to Randy. No matter how distant we feel, or not a part of things, or separated from the Lord, when we approach him, he sees us there, and he is always trying to reach out to us, as he did to Zaccheus and to Randy. It is also interesting that those around us impact our lives in many ways, though sometimes it takes a while to understand it.

You are graduating, you are moving on to High School, and some to the Academy. More and more, you are learning to make decisions in freedom, though it is important to remember that, like Zaccheus, you have the Lord watching you, waiting for you to reach out to him whenever you need him. It is also a good idea to remember that you have a lot of folks right here today as well, who care about you, who are waiting for you to reach out for their help if you find yourself up a tree. And we will always have room for you at dinner as well.

Good luck and congratulations!



### **Nora Roscoe 10th Grade Speech**

Good evening ladies and gentlemen, faculty, family, grandparents, and, most important of all, students. Right about now you’re probably wondering where I’m going to go with this. And honestly, when I first started writing this, I didn’t really know myself. So I guess the best place to start is at the beginning.

I suppose I should start by saying something about the theme of my speech. In many ways the theme of this is me, my favorite person, and my experiences in one of my favorite places in the world, The Washington New Church School, AKA - WNCS. For me WNCS has been a long road from kindergarten until just a few minutes ago. I think it would almost certainly take many, many hours to truly say what this school has done for me, so I will try to sum it up in just a few short minutes.

In previous years the tenth graders have compared WNCS to many different and diverse subjects. One time it was compared to a golf game, another time volleyball, car racing, and a super market. For my speech I think I will talk about WNCS as the Adventures of Winnie the Pooh. To me there could be no better description. I think you could only completely understand if you were part of this years 9th and 10th grades. For every one else I will try to connect the dots along the way.

The adventures in Winnie the Pooh stories have definite similarities to the adventures that I had at WNCS. My first memory of an “adventure” occurred

to me on one fateful day in my early school career. I was in kindergarten. My class in that year consisted of Derek Hyatt, John Kunkle, Alec Horan, and myself. One day John, Alec, and I all arrived at school around the same time. The three of us hung up our coats and backpacks on our hooks as usual. Nothing in the world, nothing, could have prepared us in our early, impressionable, childhood lives for the horrors awaiting us just a few steps inside the classroom.

The three of us ambled inside the room. When we get just inside the classroom we halted. There on the board, under Derek's name, was a black check. "DEREK!!!!" we all cry out in an accusatory tone. The three of us inquire of him what awful, what atrocious, what horrific thing he could have done to be reprimanded in such an appalling manner? Derek, head down, looking extremely guilty, told us, very quietly, what horrifying thing he had done. But I think that the end of this story is for another time and another place.

While I don't think that Winnie the Pooh ever went through an incident quite like this one, there is still some relationship between the two. The adventures that occur to the characters in the hundred acre woods are those that teach a lesson. The story of Derek's black mark does show in a small way how dealing with school prepares you for life after WNCS. I suppose you could say it illustrates that you will have to deal with some not so great things in your life. Sometimes things don't go exactly the way you want them to. In my personal opinion I think that WNCS gets you ready for that reality to hit. I mean I seriously don't know how anyone would be able to go through life without hearing Mr. Roscoe's saying "Life's not fair, get over it." You have so many experiences in your life where that is totally relevant. There are so many times where things don't go your way, and whenever I confront a problem like this I can always hear my father's voice in my head shouting his infamous saying.

First and second grade adventures are especially similar to those described in Winnie the Pooh. In Mrs. Maxwell's classroom my classmates and me were always very into "the Nile", also known as that swampy part near "the woods" on the playground. We would always be going back there at break and do all kinds of things that would make us delightfully muddy, which I'm sure our teacher enjoyed immensely. Let's just say that after a few months of playing in "the Nile" Mrs. Maxwell made us take off our shoes before we came back into the classroom.

The Nile was great fun for us though. All the games that we played centered around it are very reminiscent of some sorts of adventures Winnie the Pooh had. We were forever pretending that we were explorers or that we were trying to save the Nile from utter disaster, or that we were a family in "olden times" that lived off of the Nile. Many, many great memories were set around what was and is basically a swamp.

The third and fourth grade teacher when I went through that room was Mrs. Allen. Before Mr. Roscoe came along, she was the one who everyone was

scared of, well not really. I think it was basically a tradition for the people in the third and fourth grades to tell the students who were about to come into her classroom that she was a fearsome teacher. I remember one time before I went into her classroom; one of the students told me that if you were bad, she would hang you by your thumbs in the closet. Another time I was told that she scratched her fingernails on the black board to make everyone squeal with the high-pitched scraping (that one actually was true, but it was never out of evil intent). So on my first day of third grade I went into the classroom, filled with fear of what was to come. Soon enough though, I found that Mrs. Allen was one of the nicest teachers, even though she did scrape her nails on the black board. But even, so I still continued on the tradition and told the younger classes that she was terribly scary and mean.

Winnie the Pooh and all his friends also made a premature assumption of the Heffalumps. They all thought that Heffalumps were mean and nasty, that they would steal honey from Pooh! But, of course, when they actually met one, they were not so bad after all. In fact, they were rather nice. This just goes to show you that your perception of things can be totally off from what they really are. Things are never as bad as they seem to be.

Then came Fifth and sixth grades. Ah the memories'. Being in my father's classroom is definitely an experience. I mean when the teacher reads a list of ten rules, which he thinks should be law; you know you're in for a ride. I think that Mr. Roscoe's classroom was defiantly like a box of chocolates; because you never knew what you're gonna get. You never knew if you were going to get the funny laid back Mr. Roscoe, or the scary Mr. Roscoe who was not feeling well and really didn't want to deal with a class full of smelly fifth and sixth graders.

In Winnie the Pooh there were many times when the unexpected happens. Things like getting stuck in Rabbits door, or when Tigger decides to pop in on you. You never know what's going to happen in life, you never know what you're going to get. Whether it's a yummy caramel filled chocolate, or the disgusting cherry ones. That is one of the big things I've learned from WNCS.

The next two years of my life were spent in the fun seven/eight classroom. Mrs. Johns' classroom is first and foremost fun. What other classroom would ever have a subject called couch potato grammar? What other class room could you taunt the seventh graders and say, "What homework do we have? Oh wait, we don't have any!!!" None but Mrs. Johns'.

One of my favorite things about Mrs. Johns' classroom was Monday mornings. I know what you're thinking, "Who on earth would enjoy a morning, let alone a Monday morning?" Well it really wasn't the morning part that I liked, it was the fact that every Monday morning she would ask us what we had done that weekend. It sounds weird but I really enjoyed telling her what I had done and hearing what other people had been up to. It meant a lot to me that she would care enough about us to ask what we had done that weekend,

and in return she would tell us what she had done. It was really nice of her to be so considerate of her students; it really showed how much she really cared for us.

Finally I come to my final years at WNCS. The years I have spent in the nine/ten classroom have been some of the best. Not only were my classmates and I able to have fun, but we were able to learn at the same time! Who knew learning could be fun?

If I were to say what hobby my classes have enjoyed most it would defiantly be stealing (in a good way). Every French class Emily Quintero would always succeed in stealing Karla Hyatt's pens and would hide them in an inconspicuous place. And every time she would say to the class, "Seriously, guys, where are my pens?" Eventually she would get them back, but not until she was deemed to have suffered enough for them to be returned.

This year has been a year for thievery as well, thanks to Kathleen Smith. If anything ever went missing, everyone would always turn to Kathleen. She was always stealing things from other people, whether it be books, pens, shoes, lunch boxes, food, or whatever. Who would have thought that a sweet little angelic looking girl like her could ever have such an evil, devious side to her?

I truly think a tenth grade speech would not be a tenth grade speech without mentioning your tenth grade teacher. Mrs. Waelchli is one of the best teachers I have ever had. When you teach what many students would call a boring and mundane subject it's hard to get the students to get into it. But in Mrs. Waelchli's classes you don't get that so much. You don't feel bored in one of her classes. You find that you're actually interested in it. Her enthusiasm and passion for the subjects that she teaches runs through the classroom. You feel, or at least I felt, that she really cares about what she's teaching and that she want's to share her knowledge with her students. It makes you want to learn what she loves so much. I feel, and I think many others do as well, that it really is a privilege to be able to have been taught by such an incredible teacher.

I don't think you can talk about your life at WNCS without talking about friends. This, to me, is what makes WNCS so incredibly unique. You can be friends with everyone in the school, which makes this school so different from any others. You may find yourself being with people who are five years younger than you are and still having just as much fun as you would be with people your own age.

Arcana Coelestia 4906 describes friendship as "a bond between people that is an outward manifestation of love." This is definitely the relationship I have with my friends. Because you have grown up with them you feel a really great connection between yourself and them. In Winnie the Pooh, the relationships the characters have seem very simple on the surface, but once you get to know more about them you find that the friendships are deep and complex. That is

how I feel about my friendships with my classmates. The friendships that you create here will last forever.

I am nearing the end of my speech. Now it's time for good-byes. When you say good-bye to one thing you know that soon you will be saying hello to another. That is where I am right now, saying good-bye to my school, my classmates and my teachers and getting ready to say hello to a new school and new classmates and new teachers. To quote High School Musical "this is the start of something new." But good-byes are never forever. "A farewell is necessary before we can meet again, and meeting again, after moments or a lifetime is certain for those who are friends." This school and the people in it will always be my friends, so you can count on us meeting again. But for now I say good-bye. In the words of one of the Winnie the Pooh stories,

As Christopher Robin says, "Pooh, promise me you won't forget about me, ever. Not even when I am a hundred."

Pooh thought for a little.

"How old shall I be then?"

"Ninety-nine."

Pooh nodded. "I promise," he said."



Thank you

### ***John Kunkle's speech***

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. I am Xel'Nagar, a representative from the planet Alpha Centauri. First, I would like you to know that even though I came here as a kindergartner and have had 11 years, to get accustomed to you people, I am still not used to how strange and unpredictable you humans can be. You also have some very weird customs. For instance, what is up with homework? You people saddle your poor, defenseless children with pounds of homework! It's almost diabolical! Of course, my race literally saddles our children, but that's beside the point.

Anyway, I am here to thank you for all the great times that I have had in my 11 years. In my tenure at this school I have seen many things. They range from the weird, Kathleen calling me "paralyzed parsley" in Latin, to the funny, Derek doing the model walk in Bronwyn's coat, to my teachers. The latter comes with a quote from a certain Literature teacher. "Like you're supposed to have a life."

And that's just this year. While writing my speech, I realized that if I included all of the funny things that happened, my speech would go on for hours and you would fall asleep. Then I realized that the same went for thanking people. But I'll still try, if in a condensed list. Here goes, a list of people who taught me, in chronological order.

Thanks to: Mrs. Karen Hyatt, Mrs. Maxwell, Mr. Schroeder, Mrs. Chapin, Mrs. Allen, Mr. Roscoe, Mrs. Stillman, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Chapin, Mr. Walsh,

Mr. Ferrell, Mrs. Waelchli, Mrs. Kunkle, Mr. Croft, Mrs. Johns, Mrs. Ball, and anyone else I'm missing.

Now we get to the part where I reminisce about what all my old classes were like. Feel free to fall asleep. In Kindergarten, we were always happy. Everything was great, except for Alec throwing up on the first day while saying the pledge and Derek getting us our only black check. Thanks! Really, I don't remember much from that year except having one day where I was the only person to be at school. I got to do every worship job, which was lots of fun, and then left at break. It was a kindergartner's half day.

In first and second we were a little more energetic, if that was possible. We did little projects, art things, and life was generally good. My favorite part was Mrs. Maxwell giving us stickers on pieces of paper or blocks to make patterns. I still remember tricking her by lining up stars, but with the point rotated 90 degrees every time. That was also the year that I got over my dislike of work, thanks to a great teacher.

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade with Mrs. Allen were the years that I finally stopped using stubs for pencils. I don't know how I used those anymore. Then again, I also lose most of my pencils before they become that small. I went through a lot of pencils this year. Those were also the years that our class became the largest that it ever got, including Alec, Nora, Heidi, Laird and me.

In 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Mr. Roscoe made me sit up straight and realize that forgetting to write your name on a paper is a bone headed thing to do. Those were also the years of my first major projects: country and state notebooks. I wore a kilt. \*sigh\* I just hope there aren't any pictures. We also lost Heidi and Alec in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, dropping down to just three.

When I got out of Mr. Roscoe's classroom I was completely taken by surprise in Mrs. Johns' 7<sup>th</sup> grade. People sat on their desks, goofed off in class, and played spelling games. It was like culture shock. Those were possibly the funnest two years at school here. Still, by that time our class took another blow, losing Laird in the middle of eighth grade.

Then there were two. Nora and I were all that was left, but we made it into, and eventually through, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Let me just say this, Mrs. Waelchli is an amazing person. I do not know how she teaches all those classes, but this school will panic when she eventually retires.

Finally, the most stereotypical part of any graduate's speech. Where we compare going through school to something. I toyed with the idea of crashing into a wall in slow motion, but decided against it. Really, it's more like realizing that you're going into spontaneous combustion.

Okay, not really. I think that any good school is like a pencil sharpener. Yes, I am serious this time. The school is the sharpener, while the students are the pencils. However, the pencils are constantly growing in strange directions, and they have to be cut off. The school keeps us sharp, mentally and

physically. OK, it doesn't cut our hair when it gets too long, but the analogy still stands. WNCS is the best type of pencil sharpener. It trims off just what needs to be gone, leaving things like initiative and drive to help its students proceed through the world.

As it says in Heaven and Hell number 468, "There are 3 kinds of truths, civil, moral, and spiritual. Civil truths relate to matters of judgment and government. Moral truths pertain to the matters of everyone's life with regard to companionship and social relations. But spiritual truths relate to matters of heaven and of the Church."

This school teaches its students in all three of these areas of truths, balancing them so that none are left by the roadside, but none are made too important. With these three types of truths, students can go into a world prepared for whatever lay in front of them.

In my years here at WNCS, I have been taught many things. Sad to say, most of them are probably forgotten. But those truths are what allow us to build our lives, and we should always remember that.

Thank you for listening to my speech and recollections. Any questions or comments will be dealt with after this ceremony. Then I can finally return to my home planet.

## **CHARLOTTE'S WEB at WNCS**

By Alaina Mabaso for The Echo



"The story of *Charlotte's Web* clearly illustrates the Golden Rule," says WNCS Head Teacher Kathy Johns, who helmed the world-premiere adaptation of the E.B. White classic which opened June 5<sup>th</sup> in Mitchellville.

*Charlotte's Web* follows the story of pig born into peril simply on account of his small size, 'til Fern Arable, the farmer's feisty daughter, rescues him. But Wilbur is far from safe: comfortably installed in Farmer Zuckerman's barn, Wilbur learns that he will only live as long as Christmastime, when the Zuckermans will enjoy pork for their holiday dinner. But he has an extraordinary friend in the barn: a clever spider named Charlotte, who knows that people are easier to fool than bugs. She concocts a marvelous scheme to convince Farmer Zuckerman that Wilbur deserves a long life.

The talents of Erin Stillman are evident as ever in this production, proving that a shoestring budget and limited space are no obstacle to mounting an entertaining show. The Supper Room stage effortlessly spans three different

locales, and designer Jordan Cooper has leant his talents in carpentry to build effective levels into the space. Ethan Cooper also pitched in for lighting.

The *Charlotte's Web* cast offers many strong performances, most notably Bronwyn Simons in the title role. Her attention to a fluid and articulate arachnid physicality is obvious. Nora Roscoe brings energy and commitment to the role of Wilbur, and Richard Glenn delights audiences in the role of gluttonous Templeton, the rapacious rat. Kathleen Smith lends excellent presence in the role of Fern, even in scenes where she does not speak. Erika Hyatt, John Kunkle, Kristin Kinsey and Derek Hyatt team to play the Arables and the Zuckermans, and Justin Ball comically portrays little brother Avery. Kristin Kinsey, Angel Horsey and John Kunkle show remarkable versatility in multiple roles. Joe Sprinkle plays incredulous farm hand Lurvy, and Deanna Walsh and Marybeth Bond are hilarious in the polysyllabic roles of the Goose and Gander. The cast shows excellent attention to diction and volume, imperative to a successful show.

“In this story of love, friendship and loyalty we can see a parallel of our own lives today,” say *Charlotte's Web* cast members. These themes exemplify the school's focus on the Golden Rule, as does the collaboration of a theater production. The students' hard work and cooperation with each other and with their teachers make WNCs's annual production an event that is essential to this New Church school's mission.

*Charlotte's Web*, directed by Kathy Johns, premiered to a packed house at WNCs on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Jacob's Ladder Religion Lessons

*Learning about the Lord one level at a time!*

### **Religion Lessons for the Home**

The General Church Office of Education is excited to bring you a religion lesson program for children ages 5-12. Based on the religion curriculum for the General Church School System, these lessons are filled with full-color pictures and a variety of activities. Children can experience a sense of wonder and excitement as they learn the stories of the Word from parents, Sunday School teachers and others. A very important part of every level is material for parents or teachers—wonderful opportunities to renew or increase the adult's affection for and understanding of the Lord's Word. Jacob's Ladder transforms religion lessons into an exciting multi-sensory experience for today's families.

*Grandparents and other relatives love  
to sponsor this type of program!*

*For cost and more information, see the ad posted on the church bulletin board  
or go to this address on the Internet.*

[newchurch.org/resources/education/resources/families](http://newchurch.org/resources/education/resources/families)

**Early Childhood Religion Program  
from the General Church Office of Education  
2008-2009**

The Office of Education offers a special program to help meet the spiritual needs of your preschool age children. Starting in September and going through June, each month your family will receive a package of “treasures” based on a story from the Word, following spiritual concepts for three different age categories—

**♥ birth to one year ♥ two to three years ♥ four to five years**

Every month’s package includes an illustrated story for the two to five year olds, or a “talk-about” picture for the babies; projects complete with all materials and instructions to bring the stories to life; a parent pamphlet based on the month’s theme; inspirational quote cards; and suggestions of ways to develop or enrich the theme with one child or with the whole family. The first month’s package includes a CD of music especially developed for this program.

*For cost and more information, see the ad posted on the church bulletin board  
or go please contact Janet Lockard at 267-502-4951 or  
[janet.lockard@newchurch.org](mailto:janet.lockard@newchurch.org)*

## **News Notes**

**WNCS Commencement:** WNCS hosted its usual graduation exercises, Friday, June 6th. This year there were two eighth grade graduates - Marybeth Bond and Deanna Walsh (who graduated with honors). We also had two tenth grade graduates - John Kunkle and Nora Roscoe. Congratulations!

**Awards and Honors:** Several awards were given out at commencement. The Levi D. Cowley Sportsmanship Award was given to Spencer Fields and Brenna Sweeney. The Faculty Award (better know as the Appreciation Award) was given to the entire 10th grade. The Justin D. Zuber Award for Scholarship was given to Derek Hyatt and Bronwyn Simons. The lovely pendants designed by Tom Rose and fashioned by Donna Bostock had finally been cast and arrived in time for graduation. Not only did our two recipients get these medals but lasts years recipients as well. As a token of affection, the

WNCS faculty presented a copy of the award and a pendant to Phil and Janna Zuber (Justin's parents).

Kathleen Smith, Derek Hyatt, & Bronwyn Simons all achieved honor roll for the second semester 2008. Congratulations all!!!

Leah Cronlund will be DEKA Secretary for the 2008/2009 school year.

**More Graduation News:** On May 17th Paige Cronlund received her Master's Degree in Library Science from Catholic University. She completed the School Media program and hopes to work in a school library beginning in the Fall. Her area of special interest is Young Adult Media.

**New Church Day:** This year's festivities were somewhat unusual due to a wedding and other factors but we still managed to pull off a lovely celebration! First, there was the sunrise service in the field on the actual 19th, (see Doc Radcliffe's) write up above.

The banquet was well attended and the Rev. Erik E. Sandstrom gave a witty talk on the "last" New Church- It was fabulous! I hear his sermon was excellent as well.

The New Church day gifts were all wrapped up and given out, thanks to the TAG ladies!

and... the picnic, well didn't really happen, but there's always the 4th of July!

**Lovely Wedding:** Jessica Lee and Matt Fouse were married in a cathedral service in Bryn Athyn, June 21, 2008. A friend reports that the wedding was beautifully, cheerfully Jessica. Tom Rose officiated at the marriage and gave an inspiring charge to the couple. Many Washington Society friends and family were present as well as a large contingent of Matt's family.

**Daring Travels:** As I write this, Aubrey (Cowley) Hernandez is traveling around Honduras with her mother-in-law, brother-in-law, three step daughters and her own little Hailey (5 mo. old). They bussed to the capital city, Tegucigalpa in spite of a transportation strike blockading the city, to make an immigration hearing at the American Embassy to bring Aubrey and Avi's three girls into the United States. Sadly, the Embassy wants more documentation and Aubrey will have to return to the US without them this time. Hopefully by August all will be completed and Avi's girls will get their visas. Please keep them in your prayers.

**In the Other Direction:** This NN Editor is still keeping Kenya in her thoughts...and so is Duncan Smith who reports:

*"I have fallen in love!" ...yes I'm "twiterpated" and excited and boiling over! I thought I had experienced as much as possible and that I was achieving my destiny. Then it happened ... a trip to Kisi Kenya E. Africa and a visit with the people of the New Church ...it was a most memorable experience,*

*one that I do not want to forget and fervently desire to revisit and do all I can to help make it grow ...they have so much spiritually and yet have so little materially.*



*Think of the most rustic conditions you have experienced as in camping ; no running water or electricity, ...any other amenities available only with difficulty, ...add some rain and mud , you survive, but you come home with a feeling*

*of a good time is had by all... well that's their life for the people there daily. The land is beautiful, the human souls are many, they are most content that the Lord leads and give thanks to Him for what they do have...the Church is planted and with the help of some nurturing care it will grow in body as it exists in the soul.*

Look for more on Duncan's efforts to move to Kenya for 3 years to support the growth of the church and orphanage there very soon!

**Mr. and Mrs. Michael Callow  
and  
Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Zuber  
request the honor of your pres-  
ence  
at the marriage of their children  
Amanda Marie Callow  
and  
Logan Robert Zuber  
on Saturday the sixth of Sep-  
tember  
Two thousand and eight  
at 2:00 in the afternoon  
Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
201 St. Mary's Avenue**