



The mission of St. Paul's Episcopal Church is to worship God and to bring all into a loving relationship with Jesus Christ

October 2009

Edition 9 - Volume 10

www.stpaulsmboro.org

St. Paul's Fall Picnic Returns!

After a one-year hiatus, our long-standing St. Paul's Fall Picnic returns this year on Halloween, Saturday, October 31.

We will begin gathering at Barfield pavilion # 7 (a regular St. Paul's hangout) at 10:30 Halloween morning for our standard fare of delicious side dishes and desserts that you choose to bring, along with the church's ample supply of hamburgers and hot dogs.

Historically, we have found this event to be one of our most popular as we take time to slow down, enjoy each other's friendship, play a few games, eat and relax. We will have ample picnic tables in the pavilion, but feel free to bring your

favorite lawn chair or blanket, as well.

We will wrap up by 3 p.m. so that all of the children can get home, dress up and have some fun late that afternoon and evening.

Look for the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall so that you can let us know how our food offering is shaping up.

We also will need several volunteers to help. Be sure to let picnic organizers Ed & Janet Arning, mtarning@aol.com or 890-7281) know if you can help.

CURSILLO #67

Cursillo #67 will be held October 22-25, 2009, at DuBose Conference Center in Monteage. St. Paul's has ten parishioners going to the weekend, and another four on the Team. Please pray for this Cursillo, and for each one participating. With over 200 of St. Paul's folks already having attended a Cursillo weekend, we know what it means to have people

praying, and how it keeps us connected.

Here's our list: Ralph Jackson, Stan and Laney Golden, Gail Henry, Charlie and Janna McClain, Walter and Tennille McVetty, Tom Waggoner, Tami Waggoner; and on the team: Martha Canada, Pam Jackson, JeanMarie Martin, and Kent Sterling.

Flower Guild

The Flower Guild has had a very busy summer with weddings and other events. It is hard to believe that fall is approaching and another year is quickly passing. We now look forward to Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. Soon the Poinsettias will be ordered and we will be thinking of gathering greenery for use during Advent. Please keep us in mind as you prepare to prune those evergreens and other plants in your yard. We will need Holly, Magnolia, Nandina, Pine, Ivy and many other lovely things that grow in yards in our area.

I hope you have noticed that we have some new additions to equipment that the Flower Guild is using. We would like to say a special "Thank You" to Ed McClung for making two lovely oak

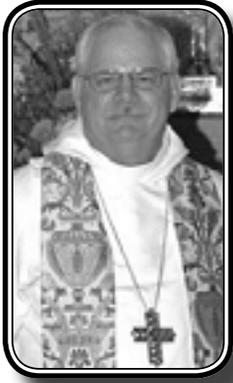
pedestals to use for arrangements for weddings, Advent, Christmas and Easter. Also we wanted to be able to decorate the Baptismal Font with flowers when it was used, but nothing seemed to fit that would hold flowers. Ed constructed an oak ring that fits over the Font so that we can attach containers of flowers. When I thanked him for making these items for the Flower Guild to use, his statement was that it was a "Labor of Love". We are fortunate to have Ed and Dotty and see the "Labor of Love" that they have contributed to St. Paul's. Dotty has been a source of inspiration and given me the benefit of her knowledge of the church, her wisdom and guidance.

Juanita Williams, Flower Guild Chair

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A MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER
PUBLISHED BY

ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
MURFREESBORO, TN



From Polk+

FULL CLOSETS

We are blessed to live in a world of abundance. We have available to us almost any thing that we can imagine. Every once in a while I stop in amazement when I walk into the grocery store. The sheer volume of food on the shelves is stunning (and means that I will have a hard time finding what Mary Jo sent me to the store to buy!). The same thing happens when I go to the mall. There is simply more stuff than I can ask for or imagine. For me it can be overwhelming. And yet we want more. We are not immune from that in our house either. The pantry in our kitchen is full. I have more clothing in my closet than I need. But believe it or not, what we are actually doing is living based on a theology of scarcity. What we are saying is this: I better get as much as I can as quickly as I can so that I will have enough. And it begins to feel as though we never have enough. We must consume in order to survive.

I am convinced, though, that in the Kingdom of God we give away in order that we may live. For the Kingdom of God assumes a theology of abundance. All that we have and all that we are comes from God. God created the vastness of the universe. Its size is too large for our human minds to comprehend. God created our world and has given it to our care ... all of it! As a result, we have in our possession an abundance of a variety of gifts and talents. God gives freely to God's creation, and generously of the love, grace, acceptance, and forgiveness that comes from God alone. That is the order in which the Kingdom of God works. When we act based on a theology of scarcity, it means we have adopted a disordered way of life.

What I have learned is that in order to restore order in my life I must give away, because the more I give, the more I realize how much I am blessed. I have found that when I give in the name of God, I am always

given back more. I always have more than enough. Enough food, enough clothing, enough money, and more...again, more than enough. Mary Jo and I have reached a goal of giving away 10% of our income. Someday we may be able to give away 10% before taxes. That is another goal. But the point is, when we write that check as the first one after each payday, there is always enough left over for other things.

When you receive your financial support card for next year, I challenge you to make that your first offering among the many commitments we all carry. I believe that we will all have more than enough of all that we need trusting in God's care. By doing so we begin to have our lives reordered so that we may live more "thank full" in God's Kingdom.

And what about all those clothes in my closet? The ones that haven't been worn in awhile have been given gratefully to Goodwill ... and my closet is still full!

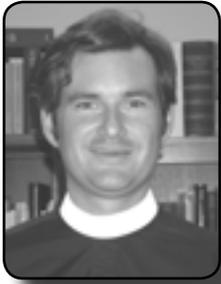
Polk+

Cursillo Leaders Workshop

For anyone who has gone to a Cursillo weekend, there is a Leaders Workshop planned for November 6-8, 2009. If you would like to get more involved in the Cursillo movement, please consider this workshop. For more information, please contact Joyce Adkins or David Rowe.

Palanca Ultreya

In preparation for the upcoming Cursillo weekend, we will have a Palanca Ultreya and Pot-luck Lunch after the 11:00 service on October 11th in the Parish Hall. Please bring a dish to share while we plan and pray for the ten folks from St. Paul's who are going to Cursillo and four others who will be on team.



Why Doesn't God Give Us Even More?

As we all know, we are in the midst of stewardship season. And this means we are encouraged to remember all the gifts that God has given us. As stewards of these gifts we are encouraged to recognize what has been given to us, so that we may give to others. But in this time of naming gifts, I also believe it is also important to name what we lack; it is important to name our needs. And this is what I want to discuss in this article.

I don't believe we will understand God's gifts unless we understand why each one of us is left needing so many gifts. Yes, God gives each of us certain gifts, but He does not give each of us everything we need. And so a legitimate question emerges: If God is "the giver" par excellence, why doesn't He give every gift to every person? Why does He intentionally leave each one of us with certain needs?

To answer this question I think it helps to remember that the fall of mankind, the fall we read about in Genesis, was not just a falling away from God, but a falling away from each other. And therefore the healing of the world, God's act of recreation, involves not just our reconciliation with God, but our reconciliation with each other. This reconciliation occurs in God's Church and God achieves this reconciliation by binding us together in need. God knows that if He gave every gift to every person, if He made all of us self-sufficient through His gifts, we would never be bound together. We would try to make it on our own. So God scatters His gifts. He gives some to each and He forces us to stand in need of each other. He makes me go to my Christian brothers and sisters to meet the needs in my life. He gives my brothers and sisters the gifts I need so that they can give them to me. He forces me to enter into fellowship by making me needy, binding me to another. Thus by making us needy God teaches us how to give and to receive. By making us needy God teaches us what it means to love and He teaches us about Himself.

All this points to the fact that to be a Christian is not simply to believe something. Our salvation is not an answer to some religious question. Rather to be a Christian means to be something and to experience something. The Church is not simply the vehicle, in history, of the Christian message. It is the community in which we come in contact with the

Christian mystery; the mystery of God with us. And it is in this fellowship, in the relationships we have at St. Paul's, that we learn how to be one with each other. In these relationships we learn how to love.

Each one of us must be aware of the gifts he or she has received. We are stewards of these gifts and God expects us to bless others with these gifts. We are called especially to remember this truth at this time in the year. But we also must remember our ministry to each other is not isolated to our giving. We are also called to receive by being honest and open to each other about our needs. We are called not only to love. We are also called to be loved.

For many of us, it is the latter which is the hardest. It is always easier to give than to receive. But we are called to do both. And I am convinced that many times giving does not occur because we refuse to receive. True fellowship involves giving and receiving. This is the fellowship that God calls us to share in - the fellowship of love - the fellowship of Himself.

Colin

Golf Scramble Rescheduled

We have rescheduled the tournament to Saturday morning, October 31, with an 8:00 a.m. tee time at Champions Run Golf Club.

Registration is at 7am, tee times at 8am. Cost is \$50/player. All levels of skill are welcome. See the sign-up sheet in the parish hall. Mike Becker is in charge at 890-5253 or 294-8147.

It will be a bit nippy, but we will have a great time. We will probably realign the teams as some will have to drop out, while others can now be available to play.

Yes, this is the same day as our St. Paul's Fall Picnic, but we'll be through by 1:00, and can make a bee-line to the picnic. This is the only other date this year we can make this work, so if we are rained out, we'll look at the spring. Thanks to all!

SENIOR WARDEN

I love reading or hearing Anne Graham Lotz - she can say in just a few words what it would take me pages to come up with. I get a daily internet devotional from her and she recently reflected on I Corinthians 12: 4-5 when she talked about being "equipped to serve," stating "what God commands you and me to do, he equips us for...if you want to discover your spiritual gifts, start obeying God... As you serve Him, you will find that He has given you the gifts that are necessary to follow through in obedience. And if you lack any that you need, God will bring people alongside you who have the gifts that you don't. Working together, you will accomplish the task to the glory of God. And that's the body of Christ!"

We have been reading our stewardship devotionals for a couple of weeks now, and I know you are as touched by them as I have been. This season of stewardship reminds us that our combined gifts equip us to serve God where we are in a much better way than we could by ourselves. This was brought home to me recently when I received a call from a parishioner who was concerned about the

effects of the economy on our church family. Certainly we have parishioners and/or their family members who have lost jobs recently, and are undergoing other economic difficulties that we may know nothing about.

The Clergy Discretionary Fund is used by Polk and Colin to help financially in situations where they at their discretion feel it can make a tangible difference in the life of someone who is hurting. This season is a good time to remember that we can "feed the fund" throughout the year - at a time of extra blessings we may have received, a time of thanksgiving, or "just because." The cash that is collected in the plate offerings the first Sunday of every month is designated for the Clergy Discretionary Fund, but feel free to give other times as well! Small (or large!) checks are accepted, too.... Perhaps if we can be intentional in this way, we can help one, or more, of our own even when you and I don't know there is a need.

God bless,

Marcie

ST. PAUL'S STUDENT MINISTRIES

presents...

FALL RETREAT '09

"TEAMWORK"

When:
November 6th - 8th

Where:
New Frontiers in Dowelltown, TN

What:

An amazing weekend full of high-flying (and some low-flying) rope course challenges, camp fires, football, worship, devotionals and teamwork!

Registration Cost and Deadline:
October 11th - \$110

For more details and to register go to www.stpaulsyouthonline.com
(or contact Joshua Courtney at youth@stpaulsmboro.org or 893-3780)



Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ

I'm about to begin my first full week of classes as a seminarian. The past month has been a time of incredible change for us as we moved, settled in here on The Mountain, and have been enfolded by a whole new Christian community. God has been working powerfully in our lives for a long time (as He does in everyone's life!), but that action has been intensified for us this summer! We found a lovely little house in the woods, not far from the School of Theology—please feel free to visit us if you're on The Mountain with some time on your hands. We've spent about three weeks getting to know the other folks who are the community of the School of Theology here at Sewanee (also known as the Community of St. Luke's). We've had a good time getting to know each other as we learn about life at seminary. It is very different from the rest of the world!

Many of you have asked about what classes I'm taking. I have a pretty full schedule: Church History, Spirituality for Ministry, New Testament Greek, Old Testament Foundations, Creeds, and a workshop for theological writing. The last one is pretty cool, because we get credit for working on our assignments for other classes under the guidance of one of the smartest human beings on the planet! I also attend chapel at least once a day during the week, and Will and I plan to be in the chapel choir when it starts up this week. I've been very good so far about not signing up for all the many, many opportunities there are to serve the community. I have my eye on a couple of things that will come up soon, so I know that I'll be getting involved soon enough.

I have to thank you, my dear St. Paul's family, for all the generous giving of time, energy and other resources with which you have blessed us! We couldn't have moved without the help of several folks who loaded our moving truck. Other gifts have been exceedingly helpful and appreciated, from the generosity of folks opening their home to one of our sons, to the no-hassle arrangements for moving and storage, and financial support that we receive from the parish. Most of all, however, we cherish your prayers, encouragement, friendship. These things truly kept us going when it seemed like we'd never finish packing, moving and clearing things up in Murfreesboro. Thank you all so much! We love you, and we miss you, but we are comforted by God's grace in his call to serve him here, now.

Peace, Suz

The Angel Tree has returned this year...



...but with differences. As we all recall late last year our new Rector was asked to participate in a multi-denomination prison ministry Angel Tree - this during his 1st week or so. Of course he said yes and we as a parish reacted on very short timing and organized a generous and effective response for those children.

The 1st difference is that this year we have been preparing well in advance for our Angel Tree program. We have selected the Rutherford County Community Services Angel Tree for preschool children - ages three to five. Saint Paul's will be the Angel Tree program for these children.

There were a number of reasons for this selection:

- We needed to impact children in difficult circumstances
- All Angel Trees serve this need, from the review process it was determined that one person coordinated for all the children of all ages that live in these three communities. We felt the need to support due to scarcity of resources.
- We wanted to be able to effectively reach out to as many children as possible
- There are three preschools of 40 children each that we will reach - 120 children in total. Significantly more impact than prior year.
- We wanted to directly interact with the children in our giving.
- We will be presenting during lunch at each school, three visits over three days, the week before their Christmas recess. Depending upon menus, we may be providing lunch as well we will certainly be providing cake and cookies.
- We needed the logistics to be workable
- The preschools are located on January, Lokey, and Hancock streets - very manageable from St Paul's
- With presentations at lunch, all children are potentially available.

So we have established the: who, why, and when. The what: The Angel Tree will have the children's names, clothing needs and special interests and will be in the Narthex in the October-November time frame. We are asking that you prayerfully consider participating with a suggested spending guideline of \$40 per child.

The Angel Tree committee is comprised of Tom Collins, Cheryl Beasley, Bill Emory, Laney Golden, Mark Jackson, and Emily Messier. Please contact a any committee member with questions.

God's Blessings

Angel Tree Committee

TREASURER'S REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

As of August 31, 2009

	BUDGET	ACTUAL
Budgeted Pledges YTD.....	\$454,061.....	\$432,023
Budgeted Expenses YTD.....	\$515,452.....	\$499,164

OCTOBER 2009

Sun

Mon

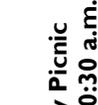
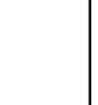
Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>4  Blessing of the Animals October 4th, at 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 7:30, 8:45 & 11:00 am HE 8:45 am Children's Church 9:55 am Christian Education No Catechesis No Chorister Rehearsal 4 pm Blessing of the Animals NO Xperience 5 pm Dream Group 7pm AA</p>	<p>5  6 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Scouts/Tiger Den 6:30 pm EFM 6:30 pm Pilgrimage 7 pm AA</p>	<p>6  REMINDERS: Fall Family Picnic Oct. 3 1st, 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>9:30 a.m Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Big Book Study 6 pm Centering Prayer Group 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm AA</p>	<p>7  Time Change Nov. 1st</p> <p>6:30 am Cursillo Reunion Group 7 am HE 9 am Bible Study 5 pm Weight-Watchers 5:30 pm HE 6 pm Reunion Group NO D-Groups/Youth 7:15pm Adult Choir Reh. 7 pm Canterbury Club 7 pm AA</p>	<p>1  3 pm Knitting Group 6 pm Ladies Night Out 6 pm Men's Club 7:30 pm Stewardship Meeting 7 pm AA</p>	<p>2 7 pm AA</p>	<p>3  3 pm Girl Scouts 7 pm AA</p>
<p>11  Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost 7:30, 8:45 & 11:00 am HE 8:45 am Children's Church 9:55 am Christian Education 4 pm Chorister Rehearsal Resumes 5 pm Dream Group 5 pm Xperience 7pm AA</p>	<p>12  6 pm Parish Life-Vestry Committee 6:30 Efm 6:30 pm Pilgrimage 7 pm AA</p>	<p>13  9 am Fresh Start 5:30 pm Big Book Study 6 pm Centering Prayer Group 6:30 pm Scouts/Weeblos 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm AA</p>	<p>14  6:30 am Cursillo Reunion Group 7 am HE 9 am Bible Study 5 pm Weight-Watchers 5:30 pm HE 6 pm Reunion Group 6 pm Outreach Meeting 6 pm Angel Tree Committee Meeting 6:30 pm D-Groups/Youth 7:15pm Adult Choir Reh. 7 pm Canterbury Club 7 pm AA</p>	<p>15  3 pm Knitting Group 6:30 pm Scouts/Tiger Den 7 pm AA</p>	<p>16  6 pm Parent's Night Out 7 pm AA</p>	<p>17  9 am Diocesan Christian Education Mtg. 9 am DOK 7 pm AA</p>
<p>18  Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost 7:30, 8:45 & 11:00 am HE 8:45 am Children's Church 9:55 am Christian Education 9:55 am Coffee with the Clergy 5 pm Xperience 4 pm Chorister Rehearsal 5 pm Dream Group 7pm AA</p>	<p>19  6 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 Efm 6:30 Pilgrimage 6:30 Scouts/Tiger Den 7 pm AA</p>	<p>20  9:30 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Big Book Study 6 pm VESTRY MEETING 6 pm Centering Prayer Group 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm AA</p>	<p>21  6:30 am Cursillo Reunion Group 7 am HE 9 am Bible Study 5 pm Weight-Watchers 5:30 pm HE 6 pm Reunion Group 6 pm Angel Tree Committee Meeting 6:30 pm D-Groups/Youth 7:15pm Adult Choir Reh. 7 pm Canterbury Club 7 pm AA</p>	<p>22  Cursillo Weekend 10 am Clergy Focus Planning w/Bishop 3 pm Knitting Group 6:30 pm Scout Pack/108 Mtg. 6:30 pm Stephen Minister Peer Group 7 pm AA</p>	<p>23 Cursillo Weekend 7 pm AA</p>	<p>24 Cursillo Weekend 7 pm AA</p>
<p>25  Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost 7:30, 8:45 & 11:00 am HE 8:45 am Children's Church 9:55 am Christian Education 4 pm Chorister Rehearsal 5 pm Dream Group 5 pm Destination Unknown 6:30 Scouts/Wolf Den 7pm AA</p>	<p>26  6:30 Efm 6:30 Pilgrimage 7 pm AA</p>	<p>27  5:30 pm Big Book Study 6 pm Centering Prayer Group 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm AA</p>	<p>28  6:30 am Cursillo Reunion Group 7 am HE 9 am Bible Study 5 pm Weight-Watchers 5:30 pm HE 6 pm Reunion Group 6:30 pm D-Groups/Youth 7:15pm Adult Choir Reh. 7 pm Canterbury Club 7 pm AA</p>	<p>29  3 pm Knitting Group 7 pm AA</p>	<p>30 7 pm AA</p>	<p>31  10:30 am Fall Family Picnic 6:30 pm All Hallows Eve Service vice</p>



David Hatfield	10/01	Jeannie Roberts	10/17
Gene Wise Jr	10/02	Jordan Brown	10/17
Jacob Brown	10/02	Molly Bartsch	10/17
Newton Molloy III	10/04	Melanie Clayton	10/18
Claire Bradford	10/04	Erin Wilson	10/18
Robert (Evan) Willis III	10/04	Virginia Tipps	10/18
Gayle Boyd	10/05	Freda Kramer	10/20
Terri Sterling	10/05	Laurette Hughes	10/20
Luke Cassidy	10/05	Cathrine Gordon	10/20
Janet Huntley	10/06	Janice Stewart	10/21
Ruth Anna Thomason	10/07	John Morris	10/21
Margaret Huffman	10/08	Daisy Gannon	10/21
Jennifer McGuire	10/09	Brianna Phillips	10/21
Alice Gibson	10/09	Dale Tipps	10/22
Fred Rogers	10/10	Timothy Seneker	10/23
Joyce Adkins	10/10	Paul Kelly	10/24
Stephanie Smith	10/10	David Cate	10/24
Christopher Curtis	10/11	Andrew Schneider	10/25
Jessica Beckwith	10/12	John Callow	10/26
John Worley Jr	10/13	Edward Arning II	10/26
Connie Moffett	10/13	Wendi Watts	10/26
Tomas Brito	10/13	Matthew Elrod-Erickson	10/26
Richard (Jake) Arning	10/13	James (Jim) Calder	10/28
Charles Moudy	10/14	Martha Rowland	10/29
Ellen Donovan	10/14	Elizabeth Bray	10/29
David Turner	10/15	Frances Jones	10/29
Mamie Scott	10/17	Sandra Gleaves	10/31
Sue Koechlein	10/17		

MEMBERSHIP RECORDS UPDATE

If you have moved, changed your home or cell phone numbers, or have had a change in your e-mail address, please contact the church office to update your records.

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Announcements for the Sunday bulletin are due in the church office by Wednesday, 12:00 noon, each week.

Articles for the monthly Evangel newsletter are due in the church office by the 15th of each month.

The deadline for the October Evangel is Tuesday September 15, 2009. Please e-mail all information to evangel@stpaulsmboro.org.

PARISH STAFF

- The Rev. James K. Polk Van Zandt, Rector
- The Rev. Colin M. Ambrose, Associate Rector
- Marcie Richmond, Sr. Warden
- Joshua Courtney, Minister to Youth
- Susan Greenall, Office Administrator
- Dr. David L. Rowe, Assistant to the Rector
- Ralph Smith, Assistant to the Rector
- Joyce Adkins, Assistant to the Rector
- Angela Tipps, Minister of Music
- Morris Hamby, 7:30 a.m. Musician
- Jacob Courtney, Assistant Minister to Youth
- Aimee Spurlock, Choirmaster RSCM
- Kathy Warlick, Administrative Assistant
- Kathy and Bill Jones, Co-Treasurers
- Annie Gracia, Nursery Director

VESTRY

- Wardens: Marcie Richmond,
Jeff James, Bill Williams
- Richard Detmer, Dan Felciano, Stan Golden,
Kristi Hay, Barry Huber, Ron Messier, Robin Newell,
Jane Smith, Tina Whitfield



Older friends help each other when they need:

- Transportation • Visits
- Phone Calls • Help with Errands

We are eager to know of any parishioner who may have these needs OR if you are willing to provide some of these services.

– Call –

Sue Koechlein at 895-4222 or Ralph Smith at 556-6414.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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Murfreesboro, TN 37133

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Websitewww.stpaulsmboro.org

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
116 N. Academy Street
Murfreesboro, Tn 37130

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“For a good time...”

Progressive Dinner, Friday, November 13 @ 6:00 p.m.

Sign-ups in the Parish Hall are due by Monday, November 9.

October 2009



It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless.

--John 6:56 et seq

You're hungry, attended the MTSU ball game and haven't had a thing to eat in eight or ten hours. You go to a white tablecloth restaurant and order a large steak, about twenty-five dollars worth. When it's served your thought was, "I'll never be able to get around that entire piece of meat and the potatoes, bread and dessert." But you do.

Or you're in a celebratory mood. Someone opens a bottle of your favorite wine. You drink freely and unwisely.

These are among the pleasures of the flesh and after sating our eager appetites, how do we feel?

Good?

Hardly.

To feel good it is helpful to extend a hand---to a child, to a stressed mom, to one who is ill. So we do and how do we feel?

As the scripture above assures us, never better when we tap into the spirit.