
Epiphany Outreach News

May 2010

BSAFE in Boston

In this spring issue we look ahead to BSAFE this summer while reflecting on our Lenten series program. For a week this summer Epiphany will help St. Stephen's with their BSAFE program by cooking and serving lunches to 120 kids then finish the week by taking them on a fun and educational field trip.



The Bishop's Summer Academic & Fun Enrichment program, or B-SAFE, serves over 550 youth and teens in six Boston area locations. The B-SAFE goals are for all people to *feel safe* physically, emotionally and spiritually; *feel big* by trying new things and advancing their academic skills; and *feel connected* by building relationships with their peers and caring adults. Through shared activities, B-SAFE works to create relationships across neighborhoods to decrease violence in Boston and increase academic achievement.

BSAFE runs from late June through mid-August, including a pre-week of staff training, five weeks of full day program and an overnight week at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center. The daily program runs from 8:30-4 pm and includes academics; visual, digital and musical arts; technology classes; sports; and tons of field trips. The reading, writing, and math curricula are specially designed to meet the needs of our students and help youth to maintain and build their skills so they are more prepared for the classroom in September. In 2009, a science curriculum was introduced.

B-SAFE AT A GLANCE

- 530 youth served, 7 sites (2 in South End, Lower Roxbury, 2 in Dorchester, Mattapan, Chelsea) for 7 weeks
- 99,400 kids hours of programming
- 26,500 healthy meals served, 13,250 snacks offered
- 15,050 hours of academic time including reading, writing, math, DEAR (drop everything and read), technology classes and science workshops
- 53 suburban and urban partner parishes worked as partners with the program (40 parishes and 850 volunteers participating in shopping, cooking, serving, reading, and planning field trips and 13 parishes offered financial support.

Helping Our Neighbors at St. Luke's, Chelsea

by Elizabeth Ganz

Sarah, Claire, Rachel and I volunteered at the St. Luke's Food Pantry Chelsea for our family Lenten outreach project. Our time was spent stocking the shelves and bagging and distributing the groceries for over 400 needy families in Chelsea, Revere and Everett, who line up every Saturday to be given food as part of St. Luke's outreach to communities and parishioners in need. I thought it was important that my children see first hand that food is not always so easy to come by and to see kids their own ages line up with their parents and work hard to help their parents carry the 20-pound bags of food back to their homes. My girls would struggle to carry the heavy bags to the Church door or to the street for them, and they could see that most of these families had no cars and either had to walk long distances with the food or take public transportation or find other means to get it home for their families to eat that week. We take so much of what we have for granted, and I feel it was an important lesson for my kids to learn that for many families around us, daily necessities such as food is impossible to come by. We all came to appreciate the services of St. Luke's and its ministry to the needy.



Elizabeth Ganz and girls





Elizabeth, Maggie and Barbara Foot



Claudia and Lucy Foot serve breakfast



Whit Rappole and kids in the pantry



Chris Berns and Ralph Engstrom serve eggs and toast



Organizing cans and meals in the pantry



Setting up for the meal



Bags of breakfast meals

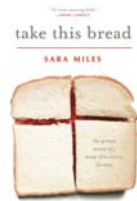


Stephanie and Lana preparing bread for breakfast



Priscilla Burns preparing lunch

Take This Bread Book Group by Ulea Lago



On Sunday mornings and Tuesday evening during Lent, a small group of parishioners gathered in the Suter Room for a Lenten book study and reflection. Using *Take This Bread* by Sarah Miles, the group explored their own journeys to Epiphany and their own experiences of community, sharing, giving and receiving in light of Miles writings. Miles, a self described “unlikely convert” to Christianity, chronicles her radical conversion to Christ in *Take This Bread* and describes how her experience of the Eucharist compelled her to create a revolutionary food pantry on the altar of her church where no one is asked to prove their need and everyone is fed. The book group concluded with a discussion about how to take the radical faith described by Miles and use it to inform our own life and work as Christians.

Women of Epiphany *March Trip to El Hogar*

To read more about their trip go to their blog @ <http://www.weelhogar.blogspot.com>.



Team with kids @ church in Tegucigalpa



Garden project #2



Celia, Jenny and Betsy with POE sponsored children, Jorge, Ana and Delma with Ninci peeking from behind



Sledgehammering concrete walls to make openings for windows



Claudia with some of the girls

Save the Dates !

Fridays 9-11 am April 23-June 18	St Lukes Food Pantry In Chelsea
3 rd Saturday morning of each month 8:30 –1 pm	St Lukes Soup Kitchen In Chelsea
1 Saturday each month 12:30-4:30 (contact Mary Provo @ mc.provo@verizon.net	Sat./Sunday's Bread: serve a meal to the homeless in Boston
May 2	Outreach Committee Lunch Meeting in Hadley Hall: 12:15-2 pm
June 14	El Hogar Fundraiser In Boston
July 26-30	St. Stephens BSAFE summer camp
September 26	El Hogar Walk-a-thon In Winchester

Missions and Ministry in Adult Ed 11:15-noon in Hadley Hall

April 18	The City Next Door: Helping the urban poor in Massachusetts with affordable housing, community economic development and public policy advocacy	Guy Costa, Ph.D. – Executive Director Episcopal City Mission
April 25	The Seminary next door - A discussion on theological education	The Very Reverend Katherine Ragsdale - President Dean, Episcopal Divinity School
May 2	The Monastery next door - Journeying to the holy land	The Reverend Mark Brown – Brother of St. John the Evangelist monastery in Cambridge
May 9	Engaging with inner city kids: After school and summer youth enrichment programs	The Reverend Liz Steinhauser – Assoc. Rector, St. Stephens church, Boston
May 16	The children of Rwanda: listening to neighbors from Rwanda	Susanna Grannis, Ph.D. and former executive director, Chabha (children affected by HIV/AIDS)