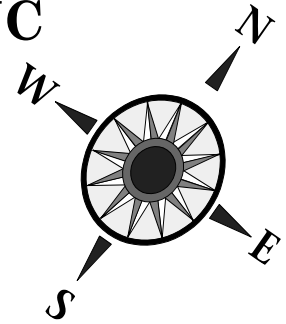


The Compass



SUMMER 2011

ST. BRENDAN - FAMILY STYLE

**YOU
ARE
RESPONSIBLE
FOR YOUR LIFE
AND
THE ENERGY
IN THE SPACE
THAT YOU
OCCUPY.**

OPRAH WINFREY

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Social Ministries
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May is perhaps one of the loveliest months in Brunswick County. The spring rains have diminished, flowers are blooming and the hot, humid days of summer have yet to arrive. So, it's easy to see why we hold our annual Parish Picnic on the weekend in May closest to St. Brendan's Feast Day- May 16.

This year 550 of us gathered at **Silver Coast Winery** on Sun. 5/15 for food, fun and friendship.

Parishioners, **Kevin & Dawn Fahy**

On June 19, 2011, after 10 years of faithful and faith-filled service, **Ronnie Goings** will retire as St. Brendan's Sacristan.

This 2nd retirement is all the more poignant because her

(aka the *Butcher of Brunswick*) supplied the food and **Laura & Dan Scinto & family** offered their *Sunset Slush of Shallotte*.

Resident clowns **Blossom & Tootsie** (aka **Janet Shirdon & friend Eva Bolin**) with costumed **Tom**



Smed, led the children to the field for games, organized by

Evelin Tapia, that included a spirited & fun-filled Macarena dance!

Face painters, **Marie Munn and Lynne Simms**, put smiles on the faces of young and old alike.

Of course things would not have run so smoothly with the nearly 50 volunteers who helped with set up, registration, desserts, beverages, trash and clean up. Thanks to **Fausto Barba** for hauling tables, chairs, ice chests & trash cans.

See you next year!

GOINGS... GOING GONE!

beloved **Richard**, who recently passed away, will not be joining her in Michigan.

Besides her Mass duties, Ronnie was a fixture in the kitchen for most functions and she helped in the Food

Pantry, but her special care for the elderly and disabled at Mass, endeared her to all.

God Bless!

Via con Dios! Ronnie



AVOID FRAUD

St. Brendan recently hosted the program "Women in Transition", offered through the Area Agency on Aging and the NC Secretary of State's Securities Division.

Don't let the title fool you — although geared to women the information was not just for women. Barbara Bennett, NC Investor Education Specialist, (919-807-2015) got right to the heart of the matter - how to protect yourself and your hard-earned money.

KEEP THIS INFO HANDY

First - check your credit.



Get a **FREE ANNUAL CREDIT REPORT** - there are 3

national credit bureaus; so, mark your calendar and every four months request a new report from a different bureau. (e.g. Feb., June, Oct.) Use these contacts for reports that are really FREE

- www.Equifax.com
877-322-8228
- www.transunion.com
800-888-4213
- www.experian.com
888-397-3742

SECURITY FREEZE

A security freeze means that your credit file cannot be shared with potential creditors. It prevents new

account identity theft. NC & SC residents can request a freeze over the phone or on line - use the credit report info listed above. The freeze can be lifted temporarily if you need to apply for credit at any time - no charge. Simply find out which credit bureau will be used, contact them and let them know how long to lift the freeze.

OPT OUT from

~ **Do Not Call registry** - Call 1-888-382-1222 from the phone you want registered for this service - report telemarketers who do call to 1-877-566-7226



~ **Mailing Lists** - send a letter to: Mail Preference Service, ATT: Preference Service Manager, Direct Marketing Assc., P.O. Box 3079, Grand Central Station NY 10163

~ **E-mail:** go to www.e-mps.org

~ **Pre-Approved Credit Cards** - call 1-888-567-8688. It's good for five years or you can make it permanent.



THE FREE LUNCH

While the offer of a free meal is legal, investors are warned not to buy anything or provide any personal information to anyone at these seminars until the

person's registration status, credentials and business claims can be verified. In NC call 919-733-3924. In SC call 803-734-4731.

FINANCIAL SERVICES PROFESSIONALS

You can check the registration status of both the person offering the investment and the investment itself **before** buying anything. In NC contact the Securities Division 800-688-4507; or the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) at 800-289-9999; or the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) at 800-732-0330. For insurance and annuity products contact the Dept. of Insurance NC - 800-546-5664 or SC 803-737-6160 to verify the person's insurance license.

Barbara Bennett also recommends making front and back copies of all your cards - even library cards (you can be billed for missing books & videos etc.) and keeping the copy in a safe place.

Her last piece of advice - **NEVER CARRY YOUR MEDICARE OR SOCIAL SECURITY CARD WITH YOU** unless you are going to a new doctor or are traveling. You know your SS number and can provide it later if required.





Anna Zeng and **Haley Harrell** were this year's worthy recipients of the **Ladies of St. Brendan** annual scholarships!

In addition to the sale of plants at the Palm Sunday Craft Sale, **Jim Scharenbrock** donated \$1,178 to our Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry from the sale of plants at his home. Thanks to all those who supported this very special fundraiser!

BRENDAN UPDATES

During March and April all the money and food items that are donated to our food pantry are counted toward our total for the **Feinstein End Hunger Challenge**. This year our pantry will receive a percentage of the total that we submitted 62,308!

On May 24th, we hosted **Confirmation** for the youth in our parish as well as several parishes in the **Cape Fear Deanery**. There was a total of 81 Confirmandi, plus their sponsors, parents, siblings,

relatives, friends, and choir members (nearly 500 in all) who joined **Bishop Burbidge** for some refreshments in Brendan Hall afterwards. We must have done something right because the bishop requested that we host the entire Cape Fear Deanery Confirmation next year! Thanks to everyone who helped make this event so meaningful!



SOCIAL MINISTRIES REPORT

From January through April, the **Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry** served 1,951 families (3,249 adults, 2,700 children, 1,211 seniors totaling 7,160 people) and distributed 446 packages of diapers spending \$24,174.17. Families utilizing our pantry donated back items valued at \$3,737.64.

Our food pantry can now be networked with **Brunswick Family Assistance**, which will help with our record keep-

ing. **Charlene Binley** is working with **Al Lodovichetti**, BFA's housing and IT specialist, to get the program up and running.

In the first 4 months of 2011, **Social Ministries Outreach** assisted 176 families (116 electricity, 22 rents, 14 gasoline/kerosene, 2 prescriptions, 3 water, 5 propane and 15 miscellaneous (helped with 5 funerals and several families who had home fires) spending

a total of \$14,251.32. We limited gasoline vouchers to those who were going to Chapel Hill or Wilmington for verified medical appointments.

Thanks to everyone who supported our Lenten Almsgiving Project - the **Closer to Home Brunswick County Hospice Life Care Center**. In early June we will present Lower Cape Fear Hospice with a check for **\$3,400!**

SCOUTING IDEAS



Since January, Social Ministries Office has offered several programs - Living Healthy, A Matter of Balance, Misconceptions of Islam and Women in Transition.

The feedback from those who attended was very good - the presenters were knowledgeable and the content was informative & worthwhile.

September is not far away, so if you have an idea for

programs, projects or speakers that you would like to see offered, contact **Kathy Doyle @ 754-8548** and we'll see what can be done.





LOOKING AHEAD!

June

12 - Good Bye Pot Luck Luncheon for Ronnie Goings after the 11:15am Mass

9 - 10 Holy Land Olivewood Crafts & Gift Shop Sale at all Masses



13 - Fr. Hector's Birthday



July

4 - Independence Day - Office closed

9- K of C Golf Tournament @ Sea Trail (Byrd Course)



Theology & Film @ 4pm in the Ahearn room

July 7 - "Simon Birch"

Aug. 4 - "City of Joy"

Sept. 8 - "Unforgiven"



WHAT'S SBIC?

The South Brunswick Interchurch Council

(SBIC) is a collaboration of 20 local churches organized for charitable, religious and educational purposes since 1997. Their mission is to improve the quality of life for our community by meeting basic human needs. This partnership of congregations continues the healing ministry of Christ consistent with the values of compassion, dignity, justice & stewardship.

St. Brendan has been an SBIC member since its inception. **Davina Candela** was our first representative, **Kathy Doyle** took over that position when she was hired in 2000. Our parish continues to be very well represented.

Mary Pritchard coordinates the SBIC food pantry at Camp United church on Main St. every Saturday. Many of our parishioners staff the pantry or pick up/deliver non-perishables/donated food. **Geneva Crawford** will replace **Dick Connolly** as Treasurer after



4 years of service. **Tom Horan**, (aka Corn Man - the SBIC mascot) has been nominated for Vice President. **Tom and Libby Horan** manage the registration for the SBIC's most profitable fund raiser - the Run for Food, held annually on the 1st Satur-

day in January. **Pat Bueter** coordinates our parish's participation in the SBIC sponsored Crop Walk each November.



Winnie Rubio, who has volunteered for many SBIC projects, is our 2nd parish representative.

Besides their food pantry, the SBIC provides tangible aid (electricity, rents, medications; funds emergency food, gasoline and lodging vouchers; and offers micro loans for down payments on vehicles for transportation, car repairs, tuition, etc.). The SBIC also organizes the Thanksgiving Dinner (plus Black Friday meal) for homebound Meals on Wheels clients.

Member dues, fund raisers (Concerts, BELK Charity Days, Shallotte Christmas Parade, Sunset at Sunset, alternative gift cards) and grants (BEMC, ATMC, FEMA, etc.) provide the bulk of the money needed to support SBIC's work, but donations, especially for Tangible Aid, are always most welcome.



Helping our neighbors in their time of need is a blessing but the real gift of SBIC is the friendship and trust that have blossomed through working together to reach common goals.