

St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS



www.stpaturbana.org

October 2015

The Gift of Life

God loves you. God just loves you. The best evidence that God loves you is that God created you. God can create anyone he wishes to, and he can see how each person will grow and develop, so God has *chosen* to love you. God's love is the spark of life in our soul, the beat of our heart, and the breath in our lungs. When we die, God's life in us changes, but does not end. We continue to live as God's creation, *deeply* loved by God, loved forever.

The gift of life is the evidence that God loves each one of us. Perhaps this is why we value life so much. The love and respect that we have for every person is an expression of the love and respect that we have for God. Emergency workers, for example, often risk their own lives to save others. Parents give more than they thought possible to care for their children. What we share with others God counts as having been shared with himself.

God's love for us does not depend on our age or abilities. Before our bodies are formed, before we think our first thought, before our talents are known, before our parents know of our existence, God has chosen to create us because he loves us.

As we grow through life, each of us is loved by God. Whether we're athletically gifted or klutzy, whether conventionally beautiful or unattractive, whether we find it easy to love and trust others or not, whether intelligent or simple, whatever our gifts and talents, we are loved by God. Even if we are hurt or damaged by abuse or trauma or addiction or accident, God loves us. The loving care that we have for others, regardless of their gifts, shows that we are learning to love as God loves.

No matter how we leave this life, God's gift of life continues. If we die in an accident, if we are struck down suddenly by disease, if we linger for many years as dependent as a child, if we die gently in old age, God loves us and his gift of life continues forever. The respect and care that we have for those nearing the end of this life show that we understand just how precious God's gift of life is. It may be that the only way we can continue to express our love for those who have passed on is by our prayers. In this way we show that we have learned from God how to value his gift of life.

Respect for life is an everyday thing. We constantly express it in the way we love and care for others, regardless of their age and abilities, simply because God loves them as he loves us. October is Respect for Life month. On the first Sunday of October, we're invited to give a penny for each year of our life as a way to express our thanks to God for the gift of life. Later in the month, there will be a collection of clothing and supplies to support parents who need help to care for their children.

Our Respect Life Committee has begun meeting on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m., to plan events that will help us remember and express our respect for God's gift of life. Watch the bulletin for more information, or contact Jim Urban (jim.urban@stpaturbana.org or 367-2665) to ask how you can help.

Are You a Woman of St. Patrick?

Women of St. Patrick



Spirituality
Service
Social

Are you a woman who is over age 18 and a member of St. Patrick parish? Then you qualify to be a member of the Women of St. Patrick (WSP). There are no dues, no swearing-in ceremonies, and no secret handshakes! All you need is a desire to join with other women in the parish to serve the parish community, to deepen your spiritual life alongside other like-minded women, and – at times – to just have fun!

The Women of St. Patrick's mission is to enrich the lives of its members and the life of our parish spiritually, socially, and through acts of loving service. To this end, the WSP sponsors a variety of activities, including:

- ◆ The annual Cellar-to-Garret sale, their major fund-raiser
- ◆ The Christmas Cookie and Basket Sale
- ◆ Special events such as farewell or welcome receptions, parish-wide celebrations, the annual dinner for the SVDP Food Pantry clients, and other events.
- ◆ Hosting speakers such as Dr. Susan Nagele, Fr. Dominic Garamone, the Baking Priest, and others
- ◆ Praying the rosary together
- ◆ The semi-annual cleaning of the church and parish hall

Women of St. Patrick *continued on page 3.*

St. Therese of the Child Jesus

“The greatest Saint of modern times.”

—Pope Pius X, June 1914

Do you ever find yourself feeling that nothing you can do is big enough or important enough? As a young Carmelite postulant, St. Therese felt this way, yet she wanted very much to become a saint. Physically small, she also felt small in what she was capable of, likening herself to a mere grain of sand compared to the vast mountains that are the saints. Yet she eventually found her way. “I will seek out a means to getting to Heaven by a little way – very short and straight, a little way that is wholly new,” she wrote. “...for I am too tiny to climb the steep stairway of perfection. Thine arms, O Jesus, are the lift which must raise me up even unto Heaven.” How many of us have felt this way?

Therese's early life was not easy. She was the youngest of nine children, and only she and four older sisters survived childhood. Her mother died when she was four; the older sister who acted as her second mother joined the Carmelites when Therese was nine. Therese was devastated by this loss and begged to be allowed to join the order herself but was told she was too young. Subsequently she suffered from nervous tremors and was an overly emotional child, until on the



Christmas Eve when she was fourteen, she experienced what she called her “complete conversion.” She wrote that “God worked a little miracle to make me grow up in an instant.” After that, she was able to get better control of her emotions.

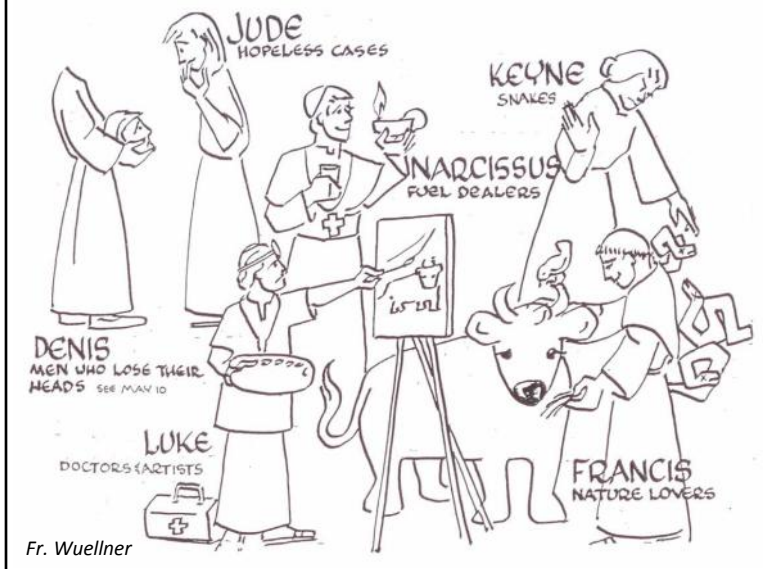
At fifteen, Therese was finally allowed to become a Carmelite postulant. She later wrote of the deep peace she subsequently felt, even through later difficulties. She wrote, “Love proves itself by deeds, so how am I to show my love? Great deeds are forbidden me. The only way I can prove my love is by scattering flowers and these flowers are every little sacrifice, every glance and word, and the doing of the least actions for love.” Because of this, she is sometimes referred to as “The Little Flower.”

Therese became sick with tubercu-

losis and suffered greatly during her last year. Still, her faith remained strong. There was a way in which she felt her impending death was a blessing. She had felt that she had a vocation to be a priest, and if she had been a man she would have been ordained at age 24. She felt that God was sparing her suffering by letting her die at that age.

St. Therese died on September 30, 1897. Her last words were, “My God, I love you!” She was canonized by Pope Pius XI on May 17, 1925, only 28 years after her death. In 1969, Pope Paul VI moved her feast day to October 1. Pope John Paul II declared her a Doctor of the Church in 1997. The Basilica of St. Therese in her home town of Lisieux is the most visited pilgrimage site in France after Lourdes.

October Patron Saints



THERE'S ALWAYS TIME...

Yes, there's always time to offer to use your time and talents through one of the ministries at St. Patrick's. If you missed it, in August the ministry booklets, listing all the parish ministries, were distributed. You may find copies near the doors to the parish hall, or you can request one by calling the parish office (367-2665).

Read it prayerfully, aware of the time and talents that God has given you. The description of each ministry includes the name of a person who would be happy to tell you more about their ministry and to welcome you to the group. The parish staff is also able to provide information about them, so don't hesitate to call on them!

Father Joseph Inspires the Senior Adult Group

The St. Patrick's New Horizons Group (the former Seniors Group) started off its new year of activities with a luncheon on August 21 at Ryan's Buffet. The guest speaker was parochial vicar Fr. Joseph Baker. About 20 to 25



Church in Monmouth, Ill.; St. Patrick's in Raritan, Ill.; and St. Teresa's in Alexis, Ill. (home in the Diocese of Peoria for the summer). During his final school year he was assigned to St. Mary's in Hagerstown, Md., and St.

people gathered to hear Father Joseph describe the formation of his calling to become a priest. He said that he began to first hear Christ's calling while he was a student in psychology and economics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. After graduation, he attended Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Michel's in Clear Spring, Md. Father Joseph was ordained into the priesthood on May 23, 2015. (For more about Father Joseph, see the interview with him in the September 2015 issue of *In Focus*, available online at www.stpaturbana.org/focus/Sep2015.pdf.)

During his years as a seminarian, Father Joseph's assignments included serving in parochial schools and in prison ministry, which was one of his favorite assignments. He was ordained a deacon on May 17, 2014, and was assigned to Immaculate Conception

Father Joseph reminded everyone present that they can and should be open to God's purposes, and encouraged them to use their gifts, no matter what their age or physical limitations. All are needed, whether able to serve actively or by giving their support through prayer.

Women of St. Patrick

continued from page 1

- ◆ Dinners out at local restaurants (everyone pays for her own meal)

Women of St. Patrick members receive regular emails when events are planned or help is needed. If help with the event is needed, the email will contain a link to a Doodle poll, providing a quick and easy way to sign up to bring food or help with set-up, clean-up, serving, taking a shift at a sale, and so on. Members can attend and help with events as their schedules permit.

Perhaps you might consider bringing your ideas and perspective to the WSP as a member of the Women of St. Patrick Board. There are currently four positions available on the WSP Board, as some of the current board members are serving their second consecutive terms, the limit allowed by the by-laws. Current members include Katie Leininger, Donna Rinkenberger, Marcia Raab, Judy Fierke, Sandy Cruz, and Nancy Olson.

If you are not a member of the Women of St. Patrick, it's easy to join. Send an email to womenofstpats@gmail.com and indicate that you would like to have your name added to the email list. If you don't use email, you can call Nancy Olson at 359-6424 and have your name added to the postal mailing list. Then watch your mail, email, bulletins and In Focus for upcoming events and join us for them. It's as simple as that!



Q: What becomes of the money from the third-Sunday collections for the poor?

A: The money from those collections is distributed to several recipients. The Diocese of Peoria requires a collection once a year for each of several designated causes; St. Patrick's sends to the diocese the third-Sunday collection that coincides with the diocesan request for:

- * Retired Religious
- * Peter's Pence
- * Campaign for Human Development
- * Catholic Relief Services
- * Mission Sunday

As for the other third-Sunday collections, 50 percent of each is given to the parish's St. Vincent de Paul Society to support their good work for the poor. The remaining funds are held for distribution at the end of the parish's fiscal year to:

- * Dr. Susan Nagele
- * empty tomb
- * St. Vincent de Paul Society
- * Eastern Illinois Food Bank
- * Annunciation Church in Beit Jala (Sister Church)
- * Parishioners in seminary or novitiate
- * Pastor's Discretionary Fund
- * C-U Coalition for the Homeless

Two other collections are sent to the diocese that *are not* taken from the third Sunday collections. They are:

- * Aid to the churches in Europe (Ash Wednesday)
- * Churches in the Holy Land (Good Friday)

Dianne Gordon, our parish bookkeeper, estimates that the money sent to the Diocese of Peoria amounts to about \$1500-\$1800 per month. The rest, she says, comes to about \$13-\$15K per year. Our parish may not be tithing yet, but we are helping the poor!

* * *

Questions about Catholic practice or Catholic teaching may be sent to the Communications Committee in care of the parish office—or just ask a member.

Heavenly Father,
Open my heart to the
Silent Presence of the
Spirit of your Son.
Lead me into that
Mysterious silence
Where your love is
Revealed to all who call
Come Lord Jesus.

—John Main

Mungu Yupo: Dr. Susan Nagele Speaks About Her Life and Work in Kenya

Life-long St Patrick's parishioner Dr. Susan Nagele shared an evening of talk, pictures, and laughter on September 10 at the Romero Center of St. Mary's Parish. The event, sponsored by the Women of St. Patrick, drew a good-sized crowd of parishioners and guests, who asked many questions about Susan's work and about conditions in Kenya. Afterward refreshments were provided and there was an opportunity to speak personally with Susan.



Dr. Nagele has been a physician and missionary with Maryknoll Lay Missioners (MKLM) since 1984, working in Tanzania, Sudan, and now Mombasa, Kenya. In 2012 she was awarded the American Medical Association's Medal of Valor, and this summer she was the keynote speaker at the 40th anniversary celebration of the Maryknoll Lay Missioners.

Showing pictures of her colleagues, medical clinics, and beautiful landscapes, Susan described her work in Kenya. The archdiocese of Mombasa has 21 clinics, and Susan visits 10 of the most needy facilities

on a monthly basis in order to consult with the nurses, nurse practitioners, or physician's assistants who run the clinics. She spoke of caring for patients with malaria, advanced stage cancers, heart disease, HIV/AIDS, Hansen's disease, sickle cell anemia and many other disorders.

Susan talked about the other Maryknoll lay missionaries she works with. They include Judy, a nurse with expertise in hospice and palliative care; Coralie, a leader and manager; and Teresa, a young teacher. She also told about two Kenyan Sisters, Salome and Veronicah, who do whatever is needed to care for needy patients, from dispensing medication, performing examinations, and lobbying hospital managers, to driving Susan over terrible roads to reach distant clinics—including one within sight of Mount Kilimanjaro.

Treating illness and disease is made more challenging by a nonfunctioning (often corrupt) Kenyan government, tribal conflicts, terrorism, poverty, and inconsistent electrical power or clean water. Additionally, providing simple preventative care, such as vaccinations, can be complicated by spotty refrigeration and a neglectful local government.

Susan is optimistic, though. She hopes the missionaries and the archdiocese will make progress in protecting children and survivors of sexual assault. A new clinic in Mtumwa will be opening soon, and Susan is working to persuade local Kenyan Catholic parishes to donate to keep it going. As one of her slides stated, "Mungu Yupo," in Swahili "God is here."

Vocation Prayer

Loving Father, you know my heart. Help me to know the path I am to walk. I seek your vision, your wisdom, your guidance for my journey in a life of service.

I trust you, Father. If you call me to consecrated life, to married or single life, with your help I will follow. Help me, Father, to know the path I am to walk, and be with me on my journey.

Truly the Holy Spirit was there to help Susan when she was awakened in the middle of the night by a Hunting spider crawling up her torso and down her back! She grabbed her flashlight and managed to kill the spider, the size of her hand, despite being comically wrapped up in the mosquito netting that draped her sleeping area. This happened to her not once but twice, though years and miles apart, once in Sudan and once in Kenya.

To keep up with Susan, you can read her blog at <http://healthministryinkenya.blogspot.com>. To support her work financially, you can donate to Susan via Maryknoll Lay Missioners, P.O. Box 307, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0307, or online at: www.mkmlm.org/SNagele. Do not send checks to her address in Kenya. To make sure that the money goes to her ministry account, you must include in the memo field: "Susan Nagele's ministry account."

Finally, Susan urged all to heed the words of Pope Francis and go out of our comfort zones to share our faith and care for all people nearby—or as far away as Africa. No matter where we are, God is here!



in our parish library

Due to the relocation of materials and offices necessitated by construction, the parish library is now unavailable to users. Next year we hope to resume our parish librarian's recommendations of parish books for children and adults that inform and enliven us on our spiritual journeys together.

St. Patrick's Reaches Out to Community at Urbana Market at the Square



Urbana's Market at the Square is a vibrant community gathering spot where people shop for fresh produce, baked goods, meats, and flowers, and also find time to visit with friends and just enjoy Saturday mornings. One row of the market is set aside for community participants, and St. Patrick's

has been setting up an information booth there for the past eight years. Parishioners staff the booth for three weekends in late August and early September.

Some people stop by the booth just to say hello. Current parishioners or those who had been raised and married

here but since have moved away return to share their experiences at St Patrick's. Visitors ask about Mass schedules, and newcomers to Champaign-Urbana ask about the programs we offer. Often people who have been away from the Church share their stories.

This is an outreach ministry for sharing our faith with the community. Consider joining in next summer!



Back row: Keeley McCorkle and Dan Richards.
Front row: Linda Weber, Liza Kaap, and Alex Bautista. Other volunteers have included Joe Hinchliffe, Shirley Splittstoesser, Stan Yanchus, Mary Long, and Lorraine Kim

St. Patrick's Parish In Focus is published on the last weekend of the month in Urbana, IL. News items and information may be submitted by mid-month for the next issue. Materials must include the name and telephone number of the person submitting them.

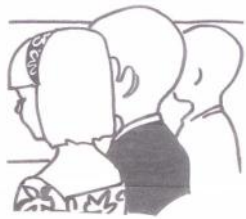
Please send news items to a Communications Committee member, leave them in the committee's mailbox in the parish center, or call a committee member. All submissions are subject to review and/or editing by the committee and staff. By-lines are generally omitted.

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Articles, information, and photos for this issue were provided by Ellen Amberg, Judy Fierke, Denise Green, Elizabeth Hendricks, Mary Lou Menches, Cheryl and Chuck Milewski, Nancy Olson, Cathy Salika, Patsy Schmitt, Mary Twigg, Linda Weber, and Peggy Whelan. Patron Saints by Fr. George Wuellner. This issue was edited by Rick Partin, page layout by Yvona Vlach.


Mentors Needed for Champaign Elementary Schools



You can change the life of a child by becoming a CU One-to-One Mentor.

Spend 35 minutes once per week with a child in need of an adult who will be a friend to them. Mentor pairs meet only during the school day, during the school year. Information and trainings for new mentors are coming up on October 1 and October 13. Training takes about an hour and a half and is fun! For more information, please contact parishioner Paula Partin at partinpa@champaignschools.or or at 217-351-3807.

Also: Mentored kids can get college scholarships of up to \$5000. Help is needed for this scholarship. Please contact Paula Partin for more information.




The deadline for submitting information, articles, and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is **October 11.**

**Quick fixin's from the kitchen of...
Lynn Hardimon**

S'mores Pizza

- 1 tube peanut butter cookie dough
- 1 pkg marshmallows
- 1 12-oz pkg milk chocolate morsels

Spray a round pizza pan with Pam (or substitute) and spread cookie dough flat on the pan. Bake at 350° for 8-10 minutes. Remove from oven and add marshmallows and chocolate chips. Bake an additional 3-5



minutes, or until marshmallows and chocolate chips are partially melted.

* * *

*If you have a recipe you'd like to share, please send it to
Mary Lou Menches (344-1125, mmenches@illinois.edu). The only requirement is that it is easy and quick to prepare!*

Presenting the 2015-16 Parish Council

Every spring, upon completion of their three-year terms, three (r four) members of the Parish Council rotate off, creating vacancies to be filled by new members. This year five new members were chosen to fill five vacancies created by retiring members. Their names, selected blindly from those of a group of volunteers, are: Kathy Cimakasky, Mary Derenne, Rachael McMillan, Jack Parisi, and Gary Wszalek. (You can read their self-introductions in the July/August issue of In Focus.)

At the May meeting of the Council the new members were seated and officers for the coming year were acknowledged: Ken Horn, president; Joe Hinchliffe, vice-president; and Kathy Cimakasky, secretary.

The Parish Council meets on the third Thursday of most months, with the agenda set by the Council officers in conjunction with the parish trustees and the pastor. Members may serve occasionally on ad hoc committees

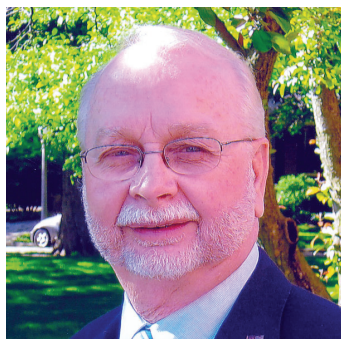
as the need arises.

All members except the officers also serve on ministry leadership teams for the six key ministry areas of the parish. This helps keep the council and staff abreast of the concerns, issues, and activities of parishioners in St. Patrick's several ministries.

Here are the ten elected members and three ex-officio members (pastor and trustees) who make up St. Patrick's Parish Council for 2015-16. All will be grateful for your interest, communication on matters of concern, and (especially) your prayerful support.



*Fr. Joe Hogan
Pastor*



*Ken Horn
2013-16 president*



*Solange Masweka
2013-16*



*Craig Goad
2013-17*



*Theresa Williams
2014-17*



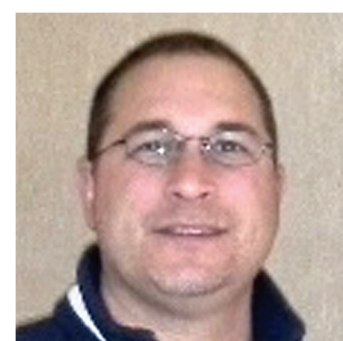
*Joe Hinchliffe
2014-17, vice-president*



*Mary Derrene
2015-18*



*Rachael McMillan
2015-18*



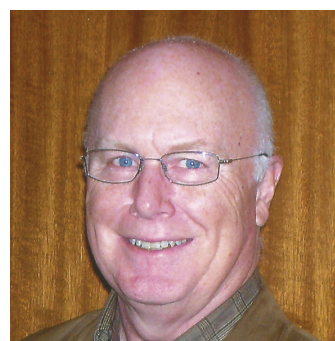
*Jack Parisi
2015-18*



*Kathy Cimakasky
2015-18, secretary*



*Gary Wszalek
2015-18*



*Bruce Rogers
2011-16, trustee*

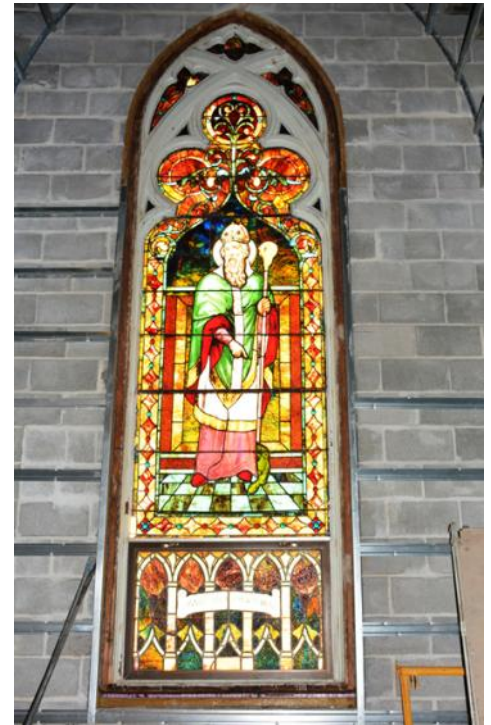


*Ginger Timpone
2008-13, trustee*



When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together.
Acts 2:1

Our church is changing from every direction — North, South, East, and West



Interior view of the St. Patrick stained glass window on the south wall of the new nave
The St. Patrick stained glass window has been relocated to the south wall of our new church addition.



Exterior view of stained glass window, north side
Progress continues as the stained glass windows are installed in the new addition—a wonderful blend of the old and the new!



Exterior view of construction, south side
Stonework matching that of the old church gives our new addition the same traditional, classic look.



Exterior view of new east entrance
Through the scaffolding, new brickwork and arches appear, giving shape to an attractive and welcoming new entry.



Interior view of the new nave looking to the east

The new nave of the church will be wider than the former nave. This view shows the new main entrance to the church.



Interior view of connection between the church and the new addition, from the south

This photo shows the connection between the church and the new addition.



Interior view of stained glass windows on the north wall of the new nave

The relocation of stained glass windows will give the new addition a sacred feel and preserve the character of our church.



Interior view of the new lower level

The new lower level will provide 6,700 square feet of new space. This area will include an expansive multipurpose room with a large storage area, a serving kitchen, men's and women's restrooms, and several mechanical rooms.

More Parking Improvements Are Underway

St. Patrick parishioners are finding their way in and out of the parish center via some slight detours this fall, and all for a good cause—a new and improved parking lot just north of the parish center. The first phase of St. Patrick's parking plan, the construction of the new lot north of the alley, was completed last November. This second phase of parking lot work began on September 8.

The parking lot project is a separately funded endeavor and not part of the church expansion budget or capital campaign. Based on a joint parking agreement between St. Patrick's Church and Carle Foundation Hospital, Carle is funding both phases of parking lot construction (estimated cost: \$1 million). In

exchange, Carle employees are permitted to use St. Patrick's parking lot on weekdays, with occasional exceptions in the case of special religious holidays or weekday funerals.

The timing of new parking lot construction could not have worked out better. We are doubling the number of parking lot spaces as we double the seating capacity of our

Old parking lot is reborn

The Petry-Kuhne work crew tears into the blacktop, making way for a new concrete lot.

church. After all work is completed there will be a total of 220 parking spaces, including the 16 spaces on the east side of the church.

