



The Severn Light

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Severn Parish
Crownsville, Maryland
August 2014—Fall Preview

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**This newsletter is either emailed to those who have online capabilities or sent through the postal system for those who don't. If you have a delivery preference, please let the church secretary know.

410-721-2881
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FALL WELCOME SUNDAY

Sunday, September 7th is the beginning of a new Church School Year, and will also be **Fall Welcome Sunday** at St. Stephen's.

With vacations and travel time over, we hope to see everyone ready to meet and greet each other and the new program year. There are several faithful ministries, some of which are listed in this newsletter, that welcome your participation. Please don't hesitate to ask any of our Vestry members about them.

Church School Open House will be held from 9:15 am through 10:00 a.m. on September 7. You will have the opportunity to register students for Church School, meet the teachers, and locate classrooms. Classroom instruction will begin at 10:00 a.m.

There are classes for students from Preschool through High School. We will continue the practice of having students join their families at Offertory time during the 10:00 a.m. service.

***Refreshments served after both services on September 7*

THE FOLLOWING IS TAKEN FROM THE DIOCESAN PARISH EMAILING:

Consecration of the Bishop Suffragan *Sept 6, 11 a.m. at the Church of the Redeemer, Baltimore*

Consecration at-a-glance:

The Church of the Redeemer, 5603 N. Charles St., Baltimore, 21210
 Doors open at 10 am for general seating in the sanctuary
 Prelude begins at 10:40 am
 Service begins at 11 am
 Overflow seating available in the chapel
 Car-pooling and buses are encouraged

Please note these important reminders and notices and share them with the appropriate people in your parish or ministry:

Banners and banner-bearers. We very much want all congregations and diocesan ministries to be represented by their banner in the procession. Please designate a banner bearer (they will process and be seated in the church as a group, proper church attire required). This should be someone who can arrive at the Church of the Redeemer for a 9:30 a.m. walk-through. Friday rehearsal not required. [Click here for details.](#)

Refreshments for the reception. Each parish is asked to make a donation of a sweet and a savory food for the reception following the consecration. Please follow this link www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C054AAFA62FA0F85-reception to learn more about the types of foods being requested and to sign up your church for donations. It is simple! Any questions should be directed to Ms. Stephanie Foy, reception chair, skmfoy@verizon.net or Sharon Tillman, stillman@episcopalmaryland.org.

Volunteers needed to help with the reception. Please contact Ms. Stephanie Foy, skmfoy@verizon.net, to volunteer in the reception tent.

Instead of table decorations at the reception, we would like congregations to bring **non-perishable food donations** in sturdy grocery bags to the consecration. Collected items will be donated to two local food pantries, [GEDCO-CARES](#) and [ACTC](#) in honor of the day.

Two letters were mailed, soliciting donations to fund the **gifts to the Suffragan Bishop-Elect**. One letter, to all clergy both active and retired, requests donations to fund the ring. The other directed to the churches for vestments and crozier. Canon Cook's family will fund the pectoral cross. Recognizing that there are always differences in ability to contribute, we nevertheless hope that every member of the clergy will contribute as generously as they can for the ring, and we also hope that every parish and other diocesan entity will give what it can toward the other gifts. Please note that all checks for contributions are to be made payable to the Diocese of Maryland, noted as "Bishop's ring" or "Bishop's gifts" and sent directly to the Diocesan Center, 4 East University Parkway, Baltimore, MD 21218.

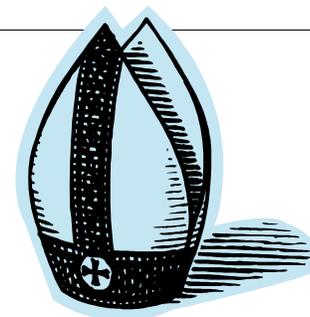
All **questions** and offers of help should be directed to the Rev. Annette Chappell (unless otherwise noted above), who chairs the Consecration Team. She can be contacted at achappell@towson.edu, or 410-377-0571 (home), or 410-812-4740 (cell).

PLEASE NOTE if you are attending the Consecration and Reception, you are asked to bring a sweet and a savory food to share.

NON-PERISHABLE FOODS will be collected and will be given to food pantries.

AND

WE THANK BEN BROWN, who will represent St. Stephen's as a banner bearer.



August 19, 2014

To the People of St. Stephen's

Dear Friends in Christ,

I have accepted a call to become Priest-in-Charge of St. Stephen's Church in Armonk, New York (just north of New York City) effective November 1, 2014. My last Sunday as Rector will be October 26th.

After careful consideration, Berney and I concluded that this was a good and appropriate opportunity for the next stage of our life and ministry, reflective of God's will for us.

For over 10 years, we have shared many good ministries together at St. Stephen's and I believe St. Stephen's can have a very good future in doing God's work in this growing area.

The Vestry, under the leadership of Senior Warden Jenny Levendusky, will be working closely with the Diocese of Maryland to assure that St. Stephen's will have a good interim period leading to the calling of the next priest to serve the parish.

Berney and I look forward to having a good conclusion to what has been a deeply valued time in Maryland for us and for our children.

With my thanks and continued prayers for the ministry of St. Stephen's,

Fr. Steve Hagerman



Something new for our younger service goers

Many thanks go out to Kathleen McNemar and her mother for putting together the activity bags for pre-schoolers that will keep them busy during Sunday services and also for the lovely stand where they are kept. And we are grateful to Cris DiBenio for sharing the idea!

Supporting our new Bishop Suffragan

St. Stephen's contributed \$200 toward the Consecration Gift for the Rev. Canon Heather Cook, who will be ordained as the Bishop Suffragan of Maryland on September 6th. We are happy to participate in this Maryland tradition in which congregations of the diocese present the new Bishop with some symbols of the office, including new vestments for her to wear.

Thanks to all who contributed!

Looking Forward

ACOLYTES

There is a great need for more acolytes. Anyone from a 4th grader to adult can become an acolyte. Please let Father Hagerman know if you are interested. There will be a training day for ALL acolytes on **Sunday, September 14 at 9:10 a.m.** in the church.

ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD

The Guild of St. Stephen's will have their first meeting of the program year on **Sunday, September 14, at 9:00 a.m.** in the Parish Hall. All women of the parish are very welcome to attend.

MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

Wednesday, September 10, is the start date for the ministry of *My Brother's Keeper*. Their work involves making quilted sleeping bags—and they will find a job for anyone who shows up regardless of sewing ability! All ladies of the parish (and friends) are invited to join. Eucharist and Healing is celebrated in church at 10:00 a.m. and set up for the quilting begins around 10:30 a.m. or so, working through 'til 1:00 p.m. Bring a bag lunch for break time. They meet on a weekly basis from September through the end of May. Questions can be referred to Joan Langenfeld at 410-721-7988.

GIVING BACK

Giving Back, an off-shoot ministry of My Brother's Keeper, is a year-round program. In conjunction with the homeless ministry at Our Lady of the Fields in Millersville, our ladies provide sandwiches for them to bring to Baltimore on the first and third Friday of each month. They meet at 10:30 a.m. if anyone thinks they may be interested in helping. Please talk to Melissa Bednarik (301-261-3623) or Joan Langenfeld (410-721-7988).

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild of St. Stephen's will hold their Annual Meeting on **Saturday, September 13 at 9:00 a.m.** All members are encouraged to attend.

Gail Brooks

BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Bible Study and Fellowship Group meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month from October through April in the Parish Hall from 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. (although the first meeting takes place on September 22). Our purpose is to come to a better understanding of the Old and New Testaments through a program called *Life Guide Study Program*. This year we will be focusing on the book of Matthew and the Sermon on the Mount.

We compare the lifestyles, customs, and faith practices of the ancient civilizations with those of the Western World. We are finding that there are as many similarities as there are differences. We share personal experiences and the "wisdom of our years" as it applies to our faith, our lives, and our challenges. If you are interested in joining our group, please contact Joan Trisko at 301-262-4399 or Jean Cox at 410-573-1638.

Joan Trisko

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

The first Sunday of October is traditionally a day to celebrate God's good creation. **October 5** is Family Sunday, where Church School students will be attending the entire 10:00 a.m. Service with their families. Various Church School projects will be presented at that time.

Later in the day, animal lovers are invited to bring their favorite pet for the *Blessing of the Animals Service* at 4:00 p.m. (no rain date)

ALL SOULS SERVICE

There will be an All Souls Candlelight Service on **Thursday, October 23 at 7:30 p.m.** Loved ones will be remembered in a special way during the very moving prayer service. Next month, in the newsletter and Sunday bulletins, there will be a remembrance form you may fill out to make sure your loved one's name is listed in the necrology.

Look for the next *Severn Light*
in October.





Musical Notes

Musical Notes, by Don Chandler, Organist-Choirmaster

Summer has almost ended, school has almost started, and Labor Day weekend is only a week away...It's time to look at music plans for the Fall at St. Stephen's.

I want to invite all singers 9th grade and older (90 is not too old!) to seriously consider joining our *Senior Choir*. You give a couple hours per week of service to God and his Church; you get the satisfaction of having learned how to read music, how to sing better, of knowing your church friends better, of participating in leadership of the liturgy—all of which gives you a better experience of God as present to us in God's spirit and in Communion. What a deal! So much in return for so little! PLEASE consider joining Senior Choir ministry this fall. Our first rehearsal is at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3, just two weeks away. Please let me know if you are planning to join us at that time. We sing on the following Sunday, September 7 at the 10:00 a.m. service, with rehearsal that morning at 9:30 a.m. My contact info: 443-924-8264; ddpctuner@aol.com.

Our Junior Choir, *Spirit Singers*, begins rehearsing on September 7 (Sunday) after the 10:00 a.m. service, in the Choir Room in the basement of the Church. We hope for a wonderful turnout of 2nd through 8th graders (alumni now in High School are most welcome if you can't find the time to join the Senior Choir; see above), including returnees from one or more years ago. Thanks to our nucleus from last year still with us and growing, we plan to build on their strong foundation by going for the gold: learning one or more full Anglican classics this year. We also plan to move full speed ahead to start and finish as many ribbon tests under the RSCM (Royal School of Church Music) curriculum as possible throughout the school year. Please contact me with your requests for enrollment in training programs for ribbon awards. Please be aware of the RSCM Choir Course of next July 2015, a week-long course of choir training and services held in Wilkes-Barre, PA, under the direction of a British or American Episcopal director experienced with choral training for all ages, open to boys and girls grades 3 and above, including teenagers, and men and women (approx. \$600.) and ...start saving!

Our newly-minted choir, *Celebration Choir*, a family-plus choir that sings once per month after one pre-service rehearsal that day, launches its first season this September, probably on September 21, with rehearsal at 9:00 a.m. We welcome families as entire as possible, plus anyone who enjoys singing but cannot commit to a full Senior Choir or Junior Choir weekly schedule of rehearsals/services. Just show up at 9:00 a.m. on that Sunday (Sept. 21) or let me know of your intentions to join this fun group: ddpctuner@aol.com; 443-924-8264.

I am scheduling all three choirs (above) so that members can join one choir this fall: we CAN do it!

It's not too early to announce the Crofton 50th (town of..) Anniversary Celebration, which will be sponsored by many of Crofton's churches, including ours, and will be held at 3:00 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Roman Catholic Church on Rte. 424 on Sunday, October 26, 2014. Mark your calendars! It is likely that our Senior Choir and Spirit Singers will participate.

All the best as we pitch in to give Father Hagerman and Berney and the kids a fond farewell, working together to take on the extra load during the interim time.

Your for Church music,
Don Chandler, Ch.M., M.Div.



**Crofton's
50th Anniversary
Interfaith Service**



Please join us for this final
Celebration of Coming Home Weekend

Sunday, October 26, 2014

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church
1800 Seton Drive, Crofton MD

3:00 pm

Everyone is invited and welcome to attend

*Special Music Offered by
Crofton Community Adult and Children's Choirs
Community Handbell and Praise Bands
Organ, Harp, Brass*

Reception to follow in the Parish Hall

Please contact Rebecca Smith for further information
rasmith55@gmail.com

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Severn Parish

1110 St. Stephen's Church Road

Crownsville, Maryland 21032

Phone: 410-721-2881

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Office Hours: MON-FRI 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

www.ststephens-severn.ang-md.org

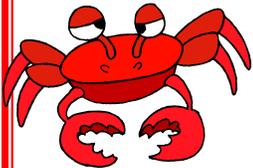
The Rev. Steven W. Hagerman, *Rector*

Welcome Sunday

September 7

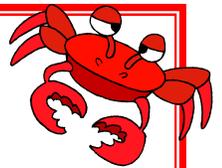
Church School Open House . . . 9:15-10:00

Classes begin . . . 10:00 a.m.



When in Maryland, go to a...

CRAB FEAST



Crabs, Corn on the Cob, Hot dogs. **ALL YOU CAN EAT!**

Ice tea and water provided. **BYO Beer & Sodas.**

Here at St. Stephen's

2:30 to 6:30 pm Saturday September 27th

Tickets go on sale Sunday August 31.

Pricing will be **40.00 dollars** for adults and **15.00** for kids (ages 5-12).

Children under 5 free.

Tickets at the door are \$5 more.

Tickets also available during the week at the office starting Sept 1