



The Severn Light

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Severn Parish
Crownsville, Maryland
March 2012

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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:

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

The Paschal Mystery—Christ's dying and rising for us—is the heart of the Christian Faith. From Palm Sunday through Easter, we will walk this path with Jesus. Join us for prayer and worship.

April 1, Palm Sunday

8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist with Liturgy of Palms and the reading of the Passion according to St. Mark

April 2, Monday of Holy Week

10:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer
5:00 p.m.—Evening Prayer

April 3, Tuesday of Holy Week

5:00 p.m.—Evening Prayer

April 4, Wednesday of Holy Week

10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist
5:00 p.m.—Evening Prayer

April 5, Maundy Thursday

10:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer
6:00 p.m.—Agape Meal, Holy Eucharist, and Stripping the Altar to prepare for Good Friday
(The Agape Meal begins in the Parish Hall celebrating the Liturgy of the Word with a Seder-like supper and continues in Church at the Offertory for the remainder of the Service.)

Prayer Vigil in Woodward Hall begins after the evening service and continues until Good Friday at noon.

April 6, Good Friday

12:00 p.m. noon—Good Friday Liturgy from the *Book of Common Prayer*, Stations of the Cross, and Private Prayer until 3:00 p.m.

April 8, Easter Sunday

8:00 a.m.—Lighting of the Paschal Candle and Holy Eucharist
10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist



HOLY WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN'S

From *Hosannas* to the starkness of the *Reading of the Passion according to St. Mark*, our observance of Holy Week begins on the Sunday of the Passion—April 1—Palm Sunday.

Extra prayer opportunities abound for parishioners on Monday (Morning and Evening Prayer), Tuesday (Evening Prayer), Wednesday (Holy Eucharist and Evening Prayer) and Thursday (Morning Prayer).



Maundy Thursday is uniquely observed here at St. Stephen's. The evening service begins in the Parish Hall with an Agape Meal in a design borrowed from the Jewish Passover Meal. Children are chosen to ask questions that will tie the Old Testament with the New Testament. For some families, this meal will be the culmination of Holy Communion instruction and there will be a special presentation to the children who participated in these classes.

The food is simple - a salad bar potluck. Please bring a dish to share (no desserts). We will have "lamb cakes" as part of the symbolism of the evening. We also have hot dogs available for the children. Even if you did not participate in the Communion Classes, we invite all of our parish families to join us.

Between 7:15 and 7:30 p.m., we will go into the church where we will continue with the Offertory, beginning with the hymn, *I come with joy to meet my Lord*. Please understand that if you are joining us in church at this time, this is the point of the service in which we are continuing. (The Liturgy of the Word is done in the context of the Agape Meal in the Parish Hall.) After Holy Communion, which may be First Communion for some of our children, we set the stage for the Stripping of the Altar, first by singing the hymn, *Go to dark Gethsemane*, followed by a reading of the 17th chapter of the Gospel of John, which are the final prayers of Jesus before his arrest. The altar is stripped and the church is prepared for Good Friday. The altar of the prayer vigil has already been prepared in Woodward Hall, where the sacred elements will be contained until noon the next day. All are invited to take time to come, pray and meditate during the night hours. (There is a sign up sheet in the narthex to make sure all hours of Night Watch will be covered.) Many events in salvation history converge on Maundy Thursday. Come and join us for this unique and powerful experience of worship and fellowship.

On Friday, noon until 3:00 p.m. will be set aside for the Good Friday Liturgy from the Book of Common Prayer, Stations of the Cross, and private prayer and meditation.



Please take advantage of these prayer times and be blessed!



NIGHTWATCH

"*Could you not spend one hour with Me?*" Sign up for the Night Watch which begins after the Maundy Thursday service. Each hour till noon on Good Friday should be covered. It isn't limited to one or two persons—families or groups of friends can participate in this silent, devotional prayer time. This is a wonderful way to end your Lenten meditations. The sign-up sheet will be in the narthex.

St. Stephen's in the Community

RELAY FOR LIFE

I believe that most of you know that *Relay for Life* is part of the American Cancer Society's effort to battle cancer. For the past decade, the parishioners of St. Stephen's have generously supported *Relay for Life* through the Annual Purple Envelope Sunday. I'd like to relay to you what that really means.

Relay for Life was originally an outreach of The Circle (a former St. Stephen's organization). They were unable to make it just one year and the youth of St. Stephen's stepped in. It was an important way for the kids to fight back against a disease affecting their parents, neighbors and grandparents. EDGE, then our Middle School youth group, was in its first year and of the 10 kids involved, 8 had immediate family, a school acquaintance or neighbor fighting the disease or already its victim. They formed a team, they raised money and they affected Cancer and they were affected by the *Relay*.

This year, the tradition will be renewed.

Relay is **Friday, May 18 @ 7pm – Saturday, May 19 @ 6am** at Old Mill Middle North. There is a beautiful symbolism to the event... It starts at dusk to represent the oncoming of darkness when you hear the diagnosis of CANCER. It continues through the evening and throughout the night representing the darkness and hardship of treatment and fear all the while surrounded by friends and strangers joined together to support the fight and finally, the breaking dawn, representing the hope of remission or a cure.

Highlights include the Survivors Opening Lap, a reminder of why we are all there. Tom and Drue Wolking have always been our anchors and Drue will be sorely missed.

And my personal favorite is the Luminaria ceremony.... The track is lined with luminaria each in honor of someone battling Cancer or in Memory of someone who lost the fight. All other



lights are turned off as we honor these folks that have brought us together. It is an experience you will never forget.

There is food for sale, raffles, games and more to entertain the whole family throughout the event. Please join us.

Come as a guest, a survivor, a caretaker for a Cancer patient, a full participant, a donor or a volunteer. Better still, don't limit yourself to just one role.

More details will come out through the Sunday Bulletins.

God bless us all!

~Lisa Eliot



WALKATHON

The date for our 2nd Annual *Crofton Cares* Walkathon is fast approaching. Sponsor envelopes with registration forms and more information are available in the Parish Hall and in the church office. You may pre-register in the Parish Hall. Runners and walkers of all ages are welcome. (Runners will start first.) Praise bands will entertain at beginning and end of Walk. **Registration forms are handed in at the beginning of the Walk.**

when: Sunday, April 15

time: Registration begins at 1 pm; Walkathon begins at 2 pm

where: Walk begins at Prince of Peace Presbyterian Church on Crofton Parkway. Walk the circumference of the Parkway.

why: To raise funds for the Crofton Christian Caring Council

Easter Flowers



Each year at Easter, you can help usher in the Paschal season with flowers. Your donations allow us to purchase Easter flowers to decorate the church. After a few weeks, you are free to take home your flower and plant the bulb in your yard - a Spring treat for next year!

So, order your thanksgiving and/or memorial Easter flowers using the form found below. They are \$10.00 each. Make your check out to St. Stephen's Church. **Sunday, March 25, is the last day for ordering.**



Easter Flower Order Form



Name _____

QUANTITY

TOTAL

LILIES _____ @ \$10.00 EACH = _____

HYACINTHS _____ @ \$10.00 EACH = _____

TULIPS _____ @ \$10.00 EACH = _____

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY March 25, 2012

IN MEMORY OF:

IN THANKSGIVING FOR:



Severn Parish 175th Anniversary Celebration

SEVERN PARISH 175th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION will begin Advent 1— Sunday, December 2, 2012, with special services commemorating our early heritage. A comprehensive and extensive program planning in the remaining nine months by the parish members will relive the past and plan the future. May invite speakers to relate the happenings of the early years in our area.

The next planning meeting will be held on Monday, May 7, 2012. Members are encouraged to present ideas and suggestions for the multiple-planned programs. Some of the events of our 150th Anniversary presented were:

- Written and Photographic Family Memorabilia --
- Evening Prayer in the Church, followed by Covered-dish Suppers --
- Special Services visiting Neighboring Churches --
- Visiting The Bishop Claggett Center --
- Tour the National Cathedral and Brass Rubbing --
- The Fall Dinner with emphasis on Old Recipes --
- Severn Parish Heritage Tour to Eastern Maryland and Early Churches in our Area --
- Children's Programs --
- Tour the Old Graves of our Cemetery, etc.

Check with your parents and grandparents for items and clippings relating to Severn Parish. Let's make this a Parish Family Celebration!

Jean Sunday
Archivist

St. Stephen's Guild Happenings

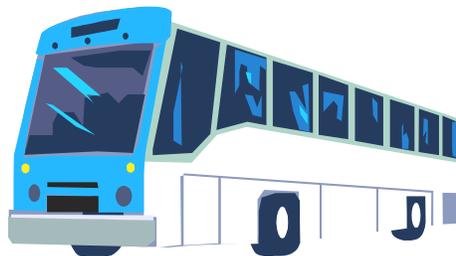
The ladies of St. Stephen's Guild meet monthly during the program year on a Thursday morning. They begin by celebrating the Eucharist at 9:30 a.m., followed by a business meeting, program, and refreshments.

At their next gathering, **April 12**, they will host a speaker from the Anne Arundel Department of Aging, who will talk about the voucher program for seniors. All members of the parish who might find this of interest are welcome to join them.

The following month, on **May 3**, they will begin their day with Morning Prayer at 9:30, followed by a trip to Annapolis to tour Sts. Helena and Constantine Greek Orthodox Church. Afterwards, on to lunch at Heritage Harbor. Parish members and friends are welcome to attend. Please let Jean Cox know soon if you would like to accompany the group since lunch arrangements need to be made ahead of time.



NEW YORK CITY BUS TRIP



The date will either be
Friday, November 30 or Friday, December 7

All 50 seats on the bus are first-registered,
first-paid, first-seated.

Cost per person will likely be about \$150.

This includes:

- travel in luxury video coach
- bagel & juice breakfast
- Orchestra or Front Mezzanine Seating to the Radio City Christmas Show
- Soft drinks & snacks served upon departure from NYC
- All taxes and tips



\$80.00 Deposit due no later than May 18th

Balance due by October 1st.



**PLEASE CONTACT BERNEY VERY SOON,
IF YOU WISH TO BE INCLUDED ON THE
MANIFEST.**

410-721-3958 (home) or shbjh@verizon.net

*We have to limit ourselves to ONE bus,
so put your name in VERY soon!*



Musical Notes

by Don Chandler, Organist-choirmaster

Easter is fast approaching -- the weather has been so warm so soon it might be Easter this Sunday already! Not really, but this is a call to Junior Choir alumni and other Choir alums to join us for Easter Sunday, i.e., come back and sing with the choir for this the most important Sunday of the year! You know who you are... I need not list names.

Please join us for our rehearsal at 7:30 each Wednesday, or, if that's not possible, the one after church on Palm Sunday. We're doing that all-time favorite (of Prince Charles and many others) "*I was glad (when they said unto me)*" by Charles H.H. Parry, a coronation anthem (George V) but without the coronation shouts (! for us Americans). It really is a wonderful piece -- check it out on YouTube! It's about the joy of...going to Church! Easter is the church-going high-point of the year, since the weekly holy day was changed to Sunday due to the resurrection happening on the "first day". So the anthem is a celebration of Easter in that indirect form. There's nothing indirect about the joy and excitement of singing this anthem though! Come out and see for yourself.

Mr. Don

St. Stephen's in the Community—Continued from page 3

GOLF TOURNAMENT



The 31st "*Dave Espie Memorial Charity Gold Tournament*" takes place on **Monday, May 7** at the Crofton Country Club. This even is sponsored by the Kiwanis Foundation of Crofton, Greater Crofton Chamber of Commerce and TLC Inc., and has named the Crofton Christian Caring Council the recipient of most of its net proceeds.

Each church has been challenged to have at least one foursome participate.

If you can't be a player, you may want to be a sponsor or a donor. See Parish Hall bulletin board for details or you may contact Tom Fallon at 410-451-3998/ tafallon1@gmail.com for more information. There are prizes and contests; celebrities and auction items courtesy of Comcast SportsNet. Golfers, don't miss this!!



FESTIVAL ON THE GREEN

If you are out and about in Crofton on the last Saturday of April, stop by the *Festival on the Green*. Along side the vendors and crafters, the Crofton Christian Caring Council members will represent this organization at a table with informational brochures and will also have a gift basket raffle.

FOOD PANTRY

Many thanks to all parish members who continually remember to bring in non-perishable food items to keep the Food Pantry shelves at Seton Catholic Church fully stocked. Please remember to make sure the items are not outdated. Otherwise, they have to be discarded. The wish-list for March includes noodle/rice/potato sides; for April it will be canned tuna; and for May, they are looking for pasta.

LOOKING AHEAD



Church School and Easter Schedule

On Palm Sunday (April 1) and Easter Sunday (April 8)

All students should attend
the entire 10:00 a.m. Services with their families—
as on Family Sundays.

Regular Church School classes
will resume on **April 15**.

ONE EXCEPTION: Mrs. Duffy's class (PreK-K) will
meet on Palm Sunday.



Final Day of Classes for Church School is May 6

Church School Recognition Sunday May 20

At the 10:00 a.m. Service
All students & teachers are encouraged to attend.

Followed by

Parish Wide Pot Luck Picnic

Drinks, chips & two party size subs provided
by the church
Attendees are invited to bring salads or desserts—
no sign up necessary

Food & Fun for Everyone!!

Vacation Bible School "Join the FUN!"



June 25-29

Closing Rite on Sunday, July 1 Classes for Pre/K to 5th Grade

Vacation Bible School is in sight and plans are
underway.

PLEASE contact Berney if you are interested in
volunteering.

We need help in the classrooms, craft center,
and snack center.

You do not have to commit to the entire week
and Berney will work closely to assist.

Any help you can offer will be happily
accepted.

THANKS ~ Berney
(410-721-3958) or shbjh@verizon.net

**Look for the next Severn Light in May
which will highlight Pentecost and end of
the program year activities.**



*Happy
Easter to all*

APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT

ASP 2012 KICKOFF MEETING

When: Sunday March 25th @ 9 am *before* the 10 am service

Where: St. Stephen's Parish Hall

Who: All ASP participants and parents are invited



We will be reviewing the budget, fundraisers, documents required, etc. This meeting will last for 45 minutes and all participants should attend and "Be Prompt". We have a lot of information to distribute and will need the full 45 minutes. If you have committed to going but will be out of town on Sunday March 25th, I will need an email confirmation that you will be participating in the ASP 2012 summer trip.

TAKE STOCK IN ASP

Episcopal Teens will be selling "stock certificates" to garner your support for their Appalachia Service Project work week this summer. Your donation of \$25. will be rewarded with a spaghetti dinner at the end of the summer featuring highlights of their trip and a postcard sent during their trip.

ST. STEPHEN'S PICTURE DAYS

Sunday April 15th & Sunday April 22nd

(In the parish hall after each service)



St. Stephen's Episcopal Teen group will be raising money toward the ASP 2012 summer trip by developing a 2012 St. Stephen's Picture Directory.

Please bring your best smile to church and let us snap your likeness.

If you choose, you can also take your own picture (1.5 x 2) and email it to:
sllafleur@comcast.net.



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Severn Parish

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Crownsville, Maryland 21032

Phone: 410-721-2881

Fax: 410-721-0043

Email: st_stephens@verizon.net

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

www.ststephens-severn.ang-md.org

The Rev. Steven W. Hagerman, *Rector*



EASTER SUNDAY
SERVICES
APRIL 8
8:00 & 10:00 A.M.

Claggett Camp 2012

LEAP OF FAITH

High School Week/ June 24-29

Middle School Week/ July 8-13

Youth Week (Gr. 3-5)/ July 15-20

Mini Camp (Gr. 2-4)/ July 15-18

fun!!
outdoor adventure
building friendships
growing in faith

Come and explore what it means to take a real leap of faith—whether out on the ropes course, off the diving board in our pool, off Swimmer's Rock in the Potomac on a canoe trip, on a new service project or along your own faith journey with God.

The Bishop Claggett Center is the retreat, conference, and camp facility of the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland located in Frederick County. www.bishopclaggett.org