



The Severn Light

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Severn Parish
Crownsville, Maryland
May 2011

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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.



Vacation Bible School

June 20th ~ June 24th and CLOSING PROGRAM ~ June 26th

Classes for Pre/K to 5th Grade

**** We have a color for each day and challenge the entire VBS to wear that color each day.**

**** THIS YEAR, WE ARE GOING TO BUILD A DRY GOODS MOUNTAIN IN FRONT OF THE ALTAR MADE OF ITEMS THAT CAN BE DONATED TO THE LOCAL FOOD AND BABY PANTRIES**

DAY 1 – **YELLOW or ORANGE** - GOD made you (Genesis 1)
THEME: GOD creates the world

DAY 2 – **GREEN** - God listens to you (1 Kings 18:16-39)
THEME: Elijah confronts the prophets of Baal

DAY 3 – **BLUE or PURPLE** - GOD watches over you (Jonah 1-3)
POT-LUCK DINNER AT 6:00 PM
THEME: Jonah tries to escape from GOD

DAY 4 – **RED** - GOD loves you no matter what (Luke 22:31-24:12)
THEME: Jesus dies and comes back to life

DAY 5 – **ANY COLOR OF THE RAINBOW** - GOD gives good gifts (1 Samuel 1:1-2:11)
THEME: GOD gives Hannah a baby

**We need help in the classrooms and craft 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

Register at: www.ststephens-severn.ang-md.org/vbsregister.html

RECTOR'S REPORT



A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

One of the resources we will be using for Stewardship Education in the coming year is the book *OUTLIVE YOUR LIFE* by Pastor Max Lucado. One of its important messages is: *"We are created by a great God to do great works. He invites us to outlive our lives, not just in heaven but here on earth, goodness that outlives the grave, love that outlasts the final breath."*

At our May 16th Vestry Meeting, we were able to approve the funding of this year's Vacation Bible School from the Ella Mae Zorb-Norma Kirwan and Carol Turner Christian Education Fund because they had a "*goodness that outlives the grave*" that took a concrete form of STEWARDSHIP. Ella Mae and Norma left a bequest for Christian Education and Carol's family, remembering her service as a Church School teacher, designated her memorial fund for Christian Education. This is the kind of PLANNED GIVING that is good stewardship that lives on after us, reflective of the new life of our souls joined to Jesus Christ who is the Resurrection and the Life. Please consider St. Stephen's and its ministries in planning your will, as you consider the goodness and love that reaches out beyond this earthly life.

SERVICES IN SIGN LANGUAGE AND VOICE ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 28TH

The Episcopal Church recognizes the saints of the Bible and many holy men and holy women who were extraordinary servants of God throughout the Church's history. They have a special day of commemoration each year and in consultation with the Bishop can be remembered on special Sundays.

Two priests that share the day of August 27th are the Rev. Thomas Gallaudet and the Rev. Henry Winter Syle. Thomas Gallaudet founded St. Ann's Church for the Deaf in New York City in 1852, the first spiritual home for deaf people, using sign language for services and ministry. He was from a family that were pioneers in education for the deaf community in America. His father, Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, founded the first school for the deaf in America in Hartford, Connecticut in 1817. His brother Edward Miner Gallaudet founded and was the first president of Gallaudet College whose charter was signed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1864.

I served as Vicar of St. Ann's Church for the Deaf in 1983-84 and, as I have related in a few sermons over the years, was honored to begin the training of my successor, the Rev. Henry Buzzard, who in spite of having Usher's Syndrome which causes both blindness and deafness, earned a Masters degree and went on to serve as Vicar of St. Ann's for over 17 years. Henry was among a long line of deaf Episcopal priests that began with the Rev. Henry Winter Syle, who was ordained in 1876 and built and served All Souls Church for the Deaf in Philadelphia.

In commemoration of this special feast in the Episcopal Church calendar, I will do both services on August 28th in sign and voice and offer a special workshop on American Sign Language as part of a special Coffee Hour after the 10:00 a.m. service. Please join us and invite anyone from the community who you think may find this of interest.

Father Hagerman

MINISTRY NOTES

CONFIRMATION

This year we will be presenting eight youth and one adult for Confirmation.

Bishop Joe Burnett, our new Assisting Bishop, will be coming to St. Stephen's on Sunday, June 19th. We will have one service that day at 10:00 a.m., followed by a reception for the Bishop and confirmands.

Please note there will be a rehearsal for the service on Sunday, June 12th at 9:10 a.m. in the Church. June 12th is also Pentecost Sunday in the Church Year.

THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MISSION TEAM

The Christian Education Mission Team will meet to prepare for the new program year on Sunday, August 28th at 9:10 a.m. in Woodward Hall.

We are looking forward to another strong invitation and welcome Sunday in the second year of the Emmaus Program and to begin the new Church School year on Sunday, September 11th. There is also interest in reviving our youth ministry and I encourage everyone who is interested in supporting that to come to the Christian Education Meeting on August 28th.

THE VESTRY

The Vestry will have a day long retreat with the Rev. Scott Slater, assistant to Bishop Sutton, on Saturday, September 24th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We will be focusing on spiritual foundations of leadership and the Vestry's role in ministry development.

Our annual Education Sunday will be on Sunday, June 5th. Please let the church office know of any graduating High School Seniors, College graduates, and students making transitions to 1st grade, Middle School, or High School, so they can be recognized that day.

LOOKING AHEAD TO SUMMER

Father Hagerman's vacation Sundays are July 10, 17, 24, and 31. The Rev. Bill Anderson and the Rev. Janet Johnson will be our supply clergy for that month.

CROFTON CARES THANKS YOU

Special thanks to everyone that participated in the first annual **Crofton Cares Walk-a-thon**. Because Crofton does care, \$6,467 was pledged to the Crofton Christian Caring Council.

We couldn't have had a successful walk without all of our volunteers. Thanks to our host Prince of Peace, the Girl Scouts for first aid and water stations, St. Paul's Praise Band, Arundel High School, Business Sponsors, Officer Howard Graves for providing safety patrol, and finally Father Hagerman and our CCCC members.



Taking a Step Toward Greater Stewardship

When we talk about *Stewardship*, we often refer to using our *time, talents and treasure* to perform God's will. And while it is true that treasure – in the form of money – is a necessary medium through which the lights are kept on in our Church, Parish Hall and Rectory, I believe it is really our time and talents that God wants. After all, if you think about the essence of Jesus' instruction to us (i.e., love God; and love your neighbors), it seems clear that Jesus is calling us to invest our time and talents in God and in each other. Following Jesus' lead, I am contemplating Stewardship in terms of what we do at St. Stephen's to serve God and our community of neighbors – our wonderful ministries.

While worship is our number one focus at St. Stephen's, I believe our ministries run a close second. Indeed, most would agree that our ministries are an extension of worship. I know for my family and me, participation in Christian education and outreach ministries have greatly enriched our worship. So even as we head towards the warm, sultry days of summer, and contemplate how we can throttle back from the hectic schedules many of us lead during the school year, I am thinking about how participation in St. Stephen's ministries can be expanded even further than today.

In the April edition of the *Severn Light*, Mark Valentine introduced the theme of *St. Stephen's growing spiritually, beautifully, meaningfully, socially and strongly*. Mark's article outlined a path on which St. Stephen's will grow as a community of faith –faithfully responding to Jesus' call for us to love and serve God and our neighbors. Mark's article resonated with me and prompted me to write this piece because one thing seems clear to me right now: Jesus is calling all of us (as individuals and a community) to action.

Some may question the timing of this article – particularly parents and grandparents who no doubt are seeking to dial back on the school-based activities, youth sports and related extra-curricular activities. Indeed, I too look forward to some relaxing weekends, time to read a good book and perhaps even taking a trip. But I also know that summertime is a great opportunity to explore in our hearts how we will respond to Jesus' call. So I recommend that you take advantage of the more leisurely summer pace to consider trying something new – specifically participating in one or more of the ministries we have at St. Stephen's. I make my appeal in particular to the parents of Church School children.

During the 12 years that my family and I have attended St. Stephen's, I have come to appreciate the many opportunities to participate in Church ministries – as I said before: ministry work has enriched our worship. I have also seen how our ministries have accentuated the incredibly strong sense of community we have St. Stephen's. During my time attending St. Stephen's, one of the cornerstones (but not the only one) has been the Church School and the associated youth ministries.

During this past year, we have seen notable growth in our Church School enrollment – as the program has proven itself as a magnet for families. The success of the Church School has also brought us a couple of challenges: the need to expand our Church School faculty and the opportunity to provide for a summer Sunday program for our pre-K and school-age children. The growth in the Church School also has reignited interest in reviving our Youth Group program.

So, here is the pitch: we have some great Ministry opportunities for parishioners – particularly parents – who hear the call to serve. I highly recommend these opportunities to you! If you ask any of those who currently participate with our youth, they will tell you that the time you invest will be repaid many times over through the pure joy of working with the children, as well as the knowledge that you are serving both God and the youth of St. Stephen's. We have a good youth program at St. Stephen's today; with your participation, we can make it great.

Taking a Step.....Continued from page 4

True *Stewardship* is achieved when we live and practice God's word, ministering to all of God's people and gaining first-hand experience with Jesus' teachings on time, talent and treasure. So, take an opportunity over the summer (if not sooner) to decide how you will help us *grow* St. Stephen's through our youth programs. The opportunities are many; the rewards are even greater!

Faithfully,

Michael Duffy

Stewardship Chair

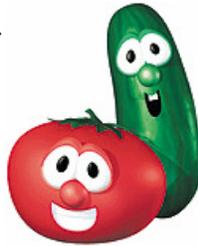
“VEGGIE TALES”

SUMMER SUNDAY SOMETHING

RESUMES SUNDAY, May 29

“Sunday morning values – Saturday morning fun”

During the 10:00 a.m. services of summer (with the exception of June 26), we will offer a DVD episode of “Veggie Tales” along with a peanut-free snack and simple craft. Any child is welcome to attend. They can stay for the entire hour or a family member can get them for Communion.



For those not familiar with “Veggie Tales” – they are a series of stories with a Biblical message using animated vegetables. Sounds silly, but they really are a treat. If anyone is interested in more information on Veggie Tales, it can be found at www.veggietales.com.

This will be our sixth summer of offering this enjoyable and relaxing program. We always hope for volunteers for the hour. The choice of DVD, the snack, and the craft are all arranged ahead of time. **IF YOU FEEL YOU CAN GIVE A SUNDAY TO THIS MINISTRY, LET BERNEY KNOW.**

The contact information is: 410-721-3958 (Rectory phone) or shbjh@verizon.net.

THANK YOU!

~Berney Jaroch-Hagerman~

EDUCATION SUNDAY

Recognition of graduates and those passing educational milestones will take place at the 10 a.m. service on **June 5**. Call or email office if your son or daughter is graduating from College, High School, Middle School (8th grade), Grade 5, or Kindergarten. (st_stephens@verizon.net)



DIOCESE OF MARYLAND NIGHT AT CAMDEN YARDS

Orioles vs. Tampa Bay Rays
Friday, June 10, 7:05 p.m.

Join friends, family and fellow Episcopalians from across the diocese for an evening of Oriole's baseball with specially-priced tickets for just \$6 each.

You may place you ticket order with the church secretary. Checks should be addressed to: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church-Severn Parish noting “Oriole's Game” in the memo. Ticket orders must be in no later than **June 3**. Those who wish, may carpool from the church that day.



Bishop Sutton at last year's game.



Musical Notes

Ah! A very LATE Easter this year! This has been confusing in some ways but an advantage in others. I'll name two advantages: first, it gave the Choir more time to prepare its Easter Sunday anthems: Handel's *Zadok the Priest*, *Hallelujah Chorus*, and *Lord, I love thee*; second, it puts Trinity Sunday, the Choir's final day of the season, on Confirmation day, June 19, so we, the Choir, will be able to give our Confirmands a rousing sendoff!

But a late Easter also meant missing my annual redbud-viewing trip to Lost River, WV, at the height of their blossoms -- my favorite spring vacation thing to do after the exhaustion that comes during Holy Week and Easter day. Thankfully, though, there were plenty of redbuds here to make up partially. The spring blossoms right at St. Stephen's were magnificent: I hope you noticed the combination of white dogwood, pink dogwood, redbuds, and new green as viewed from the Sacristy door looking toward the Rectory -- what a beautiful sight that was! In the words of one of my favorite Easter hymns: "Now the green blade riseth....," indeed!

Thanks to the Congregation for your wonderful singing on Passion Sunday and on Easter! Thanks to Marjorie Centofanti and the 8:00 a.m. folks for the best singing on Easter I've heard in years! Together we truly lifted the roof in praise.

Thanks to our Choir for their extra and valued efforts during Lent and Easter. They sang the Ash Wednesday evening service, the final Evensong in the Lenten series, the Maundy Thursday and Stripping of the Altar services, as well as Easter Sunday's 10:00 a.m. liturgy. My hearty congratulations on a job well done (according to many auditors), especially for a mighty rendition of *Zadok*, the English coronation anthem (George II) we revived to honor Christ, our King. (A "royal" sendoff for Barry and Monica?) Congratulations and thanks also to the parishioners (and many in the Choir) who donated funds for guest musicians on that special day. Our string players outdid themselves this year and the Choir's skills and talents showed to the max! Thank you, one and all. This was a real highlight to me and a deep joy to be able to do together.

I am presently concluding a Light Blue ribbon sight singing instruction series with several Spirit Singers over the next few weeks. Registrants are: Hannah Hagerman, Claire and Grace Laughlin, and David and Michael Nelson. Please encourage these young people as they prepare for their tests.

And SAY! What about the young bride and groom SINGING HYMNS at their (royal) wedding?? A new trend, I hope! Being Anglican doesn't get much better than that, does it?

Have a great and musical summer -- and don't forget to think hard about joining Choir in September...

Yours for church music,
Don Chandler, ChM, CAGO
 Organist-choirmaster

To this year's confirmands, Congratulations!

Christopher Bernard
 Katie Duffy
 Sarah Sykora

Sara Brannan
 Karen Eliot
 Lillian Younkin

Nicholas Cotten
 Meghan Mulhern
 Kristin Hegwood





RADIO CITY, and GROUND ZERO, NEW YORK CITY BUS TRIP

FRIDAY ~ DECEMBER 2, 2011

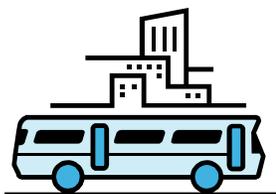
**All 50 seats on the bus are
first-registered, first-paid, first-seated.**

Cost of **\$145.00 per person** includes travel in a luxury video motor coach, with bagel & juice breakfast, a visit to the Ground Zero Memorial, Orchestra or Front Mezzanine Seating to the **2:00 pm** Radio City Christmas Show, soft drinks & snacks upon departure from NYC, and all taxes and tips.

**There are still 19 seats available, so
please make your \$75. deposit soon**

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

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



TALENT SHOW

Saturday, June 4

7:30 p.m.

Save the date, Saturday, June 4 at 7:30 p.m. for this year's ST. STEPHEN'S TALENT SHOW. We're eager to have participants! If you can sing, dance, do dramatic readings or short scenes from a play, can juggle, work puppets or something else fascinating that would entertain our parish, SIGN UP! You can perform singly or with a group. But we only have room for about eight acts, 10 minutes or less, so let Sheri LaFleur (slafleur@comcast.net) or Marj Centofanti (mcentofanti@jhmi.edu) know asap. We'll also have a table of wondrous desserts! Put this one on your calendar!



CONFIRMATION

Bishop Joe Burnett, our assisting bishop, will visit St. Stephen's on Sunday, **June 19**. Confirmation will be administered by him at the 10:00 a.m. service. Please remember that **THIS WILL BE THE ONLY SERVICE THAT DAY (NO 8:00 A.M.)**

ALTAR FLOWERS

Giving flowers for the chancel on Sunday is a wonderful way to honor a birth, birthday, anniversary, or a memorial. If you would like to do so, call Gail Brooks, Altar Guild Director, 301-261-0647, or contact the church secretary. You may check the Flower Chart in the narthex (at the head of the stairwell) for available dates.

THE NEXT ISSUE

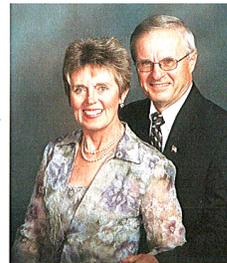
Look for the next issue of the Severn Light in mid-August, when we will have our Fall Preview. Have a great summer!



a page of gratitude.....

Thank You

On April 10 after the 10:00 a.m. service, parish members put together a going away luncheon for long-time, active members, Barry and Monica Regan. They have moved to Virginia, but we will not forget their contributions to our church.



Barry and Monica Regan would like to thank the members of St Stephen's who contributed towards their wonderful farewell luncheon and to those who attended. We are grateful especially to Jean Cox and our Women's Bible Study Team who made such tasty quiches and those who added to the setting up especially Earnie and LJ for the prettiest flower arrangements. We will most certainly miss you all. As Father Hagerman said, Monica will have to begin another Bible Study in the new church.

Thank you also St Stephen's for St Francis,his statue we mean! Such a surprise and so fitting to bless our new home and its surrounds, since we have lots of animals about and our own inside; A great reminder of our treasured years at church. As Barry said we will return to our 'plot' sometime in the future!

Thanks again to Marjorie Centofanti, Bryant and the Choir for the super dinner at their home and Choir 'sing' led by Don around the piano. What a delight that was too. Now that Don has trained Barry so well, Barry will not be happy until he finds another choir down South.

Members of St Stephen's, you have been our church family and church home for a long time. It will be sad to leave and start again, but we know the Lord has plans for us elsewhere, and you have all sent us off with your blessings. We extend an invitation to visit us in our new home and church any time you fancy a drive down the Blue Ridge Parkway, Post 136 Adney Gap, Bent Mountain, Va.

Many, many thanks and may the good Lord bless you all, with his mercy and peace. "and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes". Rev 7:7b

Barry and Monica

And at Easter we will say:

"Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns, Let us rejoice and be glad and give him the glory"

Revelation 19:6,7

And another "Thank You"

Many of you know that Bertha DeVeaux is in hospice care at this time. She will be moving from the Tate Hospice House to her son's house in Pasadena on Saturday, May 21, where she will have home hospice care.

Bertha would like everyone to know how appreciative she is of all your prayers, cards, good thoughts, and visits....she can feel the prayers and love you offer for her through Christ, and to realize how important it is to have church family for that extra support in time of need. (Her son's address is: 405 Virginia Avenue, Pasadena MD 21122.)

Help us raise the money to replace the flooring in the Parish Hall at the

Spring Fling Fundraiser

Saturday, June 11

10 am - 6 pm

Featuring

BIG Yard Sale

Bake Sale

Cooler on Wheels Raffle

filled with summer fun items & gift cards from:
Shoreline Sea Food (\$100.); Liquor Mart & Deli (\$100.)
Giant (\$50.); Gas Card (\$50.)
Tickets are \$2. each or 3 for \$5.



AND from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Barbecue Chicken Dinners for Adults (\$8.)

1/4 chicken, baked beans, cole slaw, roll, & drink
EAT IN or TAKE AWAY

Hot Dog Dinners for Kids (\$3.)

hot dog, choice-applesauce or baked beans, juice or water, & toy car

Games for Kids (between 4:00-5:00 pm)

balloon toss, sack race, ice cube relay, and more

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- **For the Yard Sale**—Please donate usable items to sell in the yard sale—no clothes (but baby clothes are OK) or large items like appliances—bring to the Parish Hall the week of June 6. Anything that does not sell will be given to charity.
- **For the Bake Sale**—Please bring in some goodies to sell.
- **MOST IMPORTANT**—Come to St. Stephen's on June 11 and bring your friends— eat, play, drink, buy, get some raffle tickets....there is something for everyone!!!

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Severn Parish

1110 St. Stephen's Church Road

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*



Come to PANDAMANIA at **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

June 20-24

Pre-K through Grade 5

Register at:

www.ststephens-severn.ang-md.org/vbsregister.html

APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT (ASP)

The ASP Team is heading for Appalachian Virginia in Wise County, leaving on July 24 and returning on July 31st. As always your prayers and support are priceless.

Sheri LaFleur

"Follow the Word, Transform the World"

***"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed
by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern the
will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect."***

ROMANS 12:2

<i>Bill Sykora</i>	<i>Marcel Bernard</i>	<i>Mike Duffy</i>
<i>Vicky Wolf</i>	<i>Lisa Eliot</i>	<i>Sheri LaFleur</i>
<i>Matt Duffy</i>	<i>Katie Duffy</i>	<i>Kim Brown</i>
<i>Leah Levendusky</i>	<i>Meredith Willson</i>	<i>Peter Sykora</i>
<i>Christopher Bernard</i>	<i>Elise Rizzi</i>	<i>Emily Wolf</i>
<i>Sarah Sykora</i>	<i>Chris Duffy</i>	<i>Anna Levendusky</i>
	<i>Rich LaFleur</i>	<i>Karen Eliot</i>