



# The Severn Light

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



## Vacation Bible School

**"SKY-Everything is possible with God"**  
**June 18th ~ June 22nd & Closing Program ~ June 24th**

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 COLLECT MONIES FOR AN OUTREACH PROJECT TO PROVIDE MOSQUITO NETTING TO CHILDREN IN MALI**

DAY 1 - **RED** - A Roman officer has faith in JESUS (Matthew 8:5-13)  
**THEME: No matter who you are...trust GOD!**

DAY 2 - **BLUE** - JESUS brings Lazarus back to life (John 11)  
**THEME: No matter how you feel...trust GOD!**

DAY 3 - **YELLOW or ORANGE** - JESUS is arrested and put on trial (Matthew 26:36-27:31)  
PARISH-WIDE POT-LUCK DINNER AT 6:00 PM  
**THEME: No matter what people do...trust GOD!**

DAY 4 - **PURPLE or GREEN** - JESUS dies and comes back to life (Matthew 27:32-28:20)  
**THEME: No matter what happens...trust GOD!**

DAY 5 - **ANY COLOR OF THE RAINBOW** - JESUS makes a beachside breakfast for his friends (John 21:1-14)  
**THEME: No matter where you are...trust GOD!**

We need help in the classrooms and craft center  
You do not have to commit to the entire week.  
Any help you can offer will be happily accepted!

THANKS ~ Berney (410-721-3958) or [shbjh@verizon.net](mailto:shbjh@verizon.net)

Register at: [www.ststephens-severn.ang-md.org/vbsregister.html](http://www.ststephens-severn.ang-md.org/vbsregister.html)

## ***ASP – celebrating 10 years of service***

Appalachia Service Project – a ministry to help those in need. Simple ministry for simpler folks. [www.ASPhome.org](http://www.ASPhome.org) This year, we continue our decade long tradition of taking parishioners (and sometimes their friends that are seeking something they don't even know is missing) to the poverty stricken area of the Appalachia to work on the homes of chosen families. This year, three teams will leave Sunday, June 17 for Sunbright in Morgan County, TN. We have a budget of nearly \$11,000 which we are still working hard to raise.

Thank you to those of you who have donated, purchased stock and committed to purchase the picture directory. We ask for your prayers to support us through the week for those that go as representatives of St. Stephen's:

<b><i>Bill Sykora</i></b>	<b><i>Fred Eliot</i></b>	<b><i>Mike Duffy</i></b>
<b><i>Lisa Eliot</i></b>	<b><i>Sheri LaFleur</i></b>	<b><i>Vicky Wolf</i></b>
<b><i>Matt Duffy</i></b>	<b><i>Chris Duffy</i></b>	<b><i>Scott Eliot</i></b>
<b><i>Chris Bernard</i></b>	<b><i>William Sykora</i></b>	<b><i>Peter Sykora</i></b>
<b><i>Anna Levendusky</i></b>	<b><i>Sarah Sykora</i></b>	<b><i>Emily Wolf</i></b>
<b><i>Lillian Younkin</i></b>	<b><i>Jen Eliot</i></b>	<b><i>Karen Eliot</i></b>
	<b><i>Melanie Gormley</i></b>	<b><i>Leah Levendusky</i></b>

***Floater***  
***Rich LaFleur***  
***Mike Levendusky***

Ten years ago, the youth of St. Stephen's under the leadership of Sheri LaFleur began the ASP tradition. The idea had been that the high school youth group and their adult chaperones would go to for a week every summer and do something good for others. The first trip taught them all that by doing that service for others, they actually, inadvertently, gave more to themselves. They returned blessed with new friends, new skills, new appreciation for the things they took for granted, ASP is a journey to a renewal of soul and faith.

This year's ASP theme is: **"All for One"**

*"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone."* 1 Corinthians 12: 4-6

Not minimizing the work that we have done and will do, but **all** of us who have ever been on an ASP trip give special thanks **for One**, Sheri LaFleur, our fearless leader for the past 10 years. Sheri is resigning after this trip, so we look for the next leader to step forward, that a new generation of our youth may experience the same magic through service. What do you think – could it be you? Are you called to be our **One**?

*~Lisa Eliot*

## MINISTRY NOTES: Good Things to Know

### EDUCATION SUNDAY

Our annual Education Sunday will be June 3rd. Please let the church secretary know of any students graduating High School or College, and students transitioning to 1st grade, Middle School, or High School, so they can be recognized that day at the 10:00 a.m. service. (410-721-2881/st\_stephens@verizon.net)



### LOOKING AHEAD TO SUMMER

Plans are in the making for using our new outside altar area for an outside service(s) on Sunday, July 1st. Check the bulletin for up-dates. Hats off to Peter Sykora for this addition to our church grounds, which was his Eagle Scout Project. Father Hagerman dedicated this area on May 20.

Father Hagerman's vacation Sundays are July 8, 15, 22, and 29. The Rev. David Jones will be our supply clergy for that time and is looking forward to his return visit to St. Stephen's.

### USE OF PARISH HALL

During the month of July, the Annapolis Shakespeare Company will use our Parish Hall for rehearsals, in preparation for their performances at the Bowie Playhouse where they will present Shakespeare's "The Comedy of Errors."

### SWEET SUMMER HOUR OF PRAYER

Those soft summer evenings. The quiet of Woodward Hall. Join us for any one of the three middle Wednesdays in JULY for one hour that combines Centering Prayer and group discussion. No teaching. Just prayer, shared thoughts and lemonade. No experience with Centering Prayer necessary. More on this later in June (check bulletins). Questions? Call Marjorie Centofanti 410-544-5665.

### SUMMERTIME LEMONADE/ICED TEA HOUR

As we move into the warmer months, we'll be moving our Coffee/Fellowship Hour after the 10:00 a.m. service out on the "front porch". As has been our custom for past few years, please take a moment to enjoy a cup of lemonade or tea and a

treat or two with fellow parishioners. We will start our summertime hospitality hour on Sunday, June 17, and will expect to go through the summer.

Additionally, we are looking for volunteers to take on a Sunday or two. A sign up sheet will be posted initially in the Narthex and then likely onto the bulletin in the Parish Hall Entry Hallway. The assignment is pretty easy - make a couple of jugs of iced tea and/or lemonade, make or buy a simple snack or two (cookies, fruit, whatever), and take care of the set-up/break-down. Any questions? Please contact Vicky Wolf at [vicky.wolf@dlapiper.com](mailto:vicky.wolf@dlapiper.com) or (301) 467-4849.

# THANK YOU!!

*We have an amazing Church School. We provide our children with high quality Christian Education because of our wonderfully dedicated volunteers and staff. SO... A heartfelt thanks to the following...*

*(in no particular order)*

*Irene McEntee*

*Sue Hoge*

*Fr. Hagerman*

*Mike Duffy*

*Lee Devereaux*

*Margaret Duffy*

*Katie Duffy*

*Kim Brown*

*Mary Anne Michel*

*Emily Michel*

*Amy Laughlin*

*Don Chandler*

*Meredith Devereaux*

*Jen Eliot*

*Scott Eliot*

**PARENT & GRANDPARENT  
VOLUNTEERS!**

## **Parishioners of St. Stephens,**

As indicated during the 2012 Annual Meeting, your Vestry has considered multiple options to replace the HVAC systems that currently heat and cool our facilities. Replacing these inefficient and outdated systems will go a long way toward maintaining positive control of our operating expenses by eliminating our dependence on fuel oil while implementing a more reliable and greener heating and cooling solution.

On Monday, 7 May 2012, your Vestry took an important first step in the replacement of our HVAC Systems. This step included the approval to commit up to \$90,000 to upgrade the power systems, bringing our electrical systems up to current code, and to replace the Church HVAC system with a highly efficient electric heating and cooling system. An important consideration in making this decision was to fund the project using our existing Capital Investment Funds. This is clearly a great first step in moving St. Stephen's towards a more reliable and greener HVAC solution with lower operating costs. However, the first step is always followed by step two.

Step two includes conducting a Capital Campaign to raise funds to finance the HVAC project in its entirety to include replacement of HVAC systems in both Woodward and Parish Halls. In the coming weeks your Vestry will outline the key elements of this Capital Campaign which will include: the expected campaign goal (anticipate ~\$200,000), the term of the campaign, and interim milestones and related events. Success in this venture is dependent on the proactive management of the drive by your Vestry along with your commitment and support.

To this end, the Vestry has committed to a Capital Campaign that maximizes flexibility for parishioners to contribute to the campaign, while being defined and managed in-house by a certified Project Management Professional (PMP). Your Vestry has appointed me, John DiBenio PMP, to lead this Capital Campaign Drive. You have my commitment to leverage my professional experience in managing commercial and government projects to implement and apply proven programmatic rigor throughout this campaign. The Vestry has also established a group of key personnel to ensure all stakeholder considerations are given their due while this effort successfully moves forward.

Your engagement and support in this campaign will ultimately be the deciding factor in the campaign's success. This cannot happen without your commitment. Both a financial and personal connection to this campaign is needed to ensure this effort closes out on time, on budget, and restores strength and risk tolerance within St. Stephen's fiscal portfolio. A letter will be forthcoming outlining the ways you can support this effort including serving on the Campaign Committee, Pledging opportunities, lump sum contribution opportunities, and milestone event planning.

The final step will determine the timing and implementation of HVAC system replacement of both Woodward and Parish Halls. Completion of these projects will consider both planned activities within these facilities as well as the Capital Campaign's success in raising the necessary funds. Your Vestry will responsibly move these projects forward in such a way as to mitigate reasonable risk to the Parish as a whole.

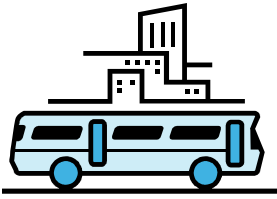
A successful campaign will afford us the opportunity to realize independence from fuel oil, removal of an outdated and unreliable HVAC solution, install a greener heating and cooling solution for our chosen place of worship, and restore predictability and certainty within our operating budgets. Please begin considering the most appropriate way for you to support this campaign, and do not hesitate to contact a Vestry member for additional information and insight to how you can demonstrate your commitment to the campaign's success and dedication to St. Stephen's.

Thank you for your consideration and on-going commitment to St. Stephen's.

Yours in service,

*John DiBenio* PMP

Vestry, Finance & Investment Committee, HVAC Capital Campaign Chair  
410-991-5777, [dibenio@comcast.net](mailto:dibenio@comcast.net)



## NEW YORK CITY BUS TRIP

**FRIDAY ~ NOVEMBER 30, 2012**

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

Cost of **\$150.00 per person** includes travel in a luxury video motor coach, with bagel & juice breakfast, Orchestra or Front Mezzanine seating to the **1:00 pm** Radio City Christmas Show, soft drinks & snacks upon departure from NYC, and all taxes and tips.

**\$75. Deposit due by May 25th.**  
**Balance of \$75. due by October 1st.**

*This year, your time before and after the Radio City Show at 1:00 p.m. is entirely up to you. NYC offers a multitude of sights, especially at CHRISTMAS...*

**PLEASE CONTACT BERNEY VERY SOON IF YOU WISH TO BE INCLUDED ON THE MANIFEST:**  
**410-721-3958 (home) or [shbjh@verizon.net](mailto:shbjh@verizon.net)**

Please know that if your plans change come December, your seat can be sold to another individual. It is very necessary that initial reservations are made in a timely manner.

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

**We will leave St. Stephen's at 7:00 a.m.; NYC at 6:30 p.m.**



## "VEGGIE TALES" SUMMER SUNDAY SOMETHING

RESUMES IN JULY

During the 10:00 a.m. services of summer, 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](http://www.veggietales.com).

*"Sunday morning values – Saturday morning fun"*

## DIOCESE OF MARYLAND NIGHT AT CAMDEN YARDS

**Saturday, June 23 rd at 7:15 p.m.**

Join us for the 4th Annual Episcopal Diocese Day at Camden Yards as the Orioles play the Nationals! Members of the Episcopal Church will participate in an on-field ceremony, perform the National Anthem, and cheer the O's to victory.



The church secretary will order the specially priced **\$6. tickets**. 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 11.**

## THE NEXT ISSUE

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



## Growth through Dedicated Stewardship St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Our Church history has been rich with great challenges as the needs of the local Episcopalian community grew. In 1838, the Reverend Aisquith called on all faithful families, friends in Baltimore and other parts of the state to help raise the initial funds necessary to construct a church building. Donations of land, finances, bricks, and labor were realized. A vestry report of 1840 states that *we expect to have a church built by summer*. In a subsequent report it was stated that *we have succeeded in erecting a neat brick church not yet plastered and painted, but sufficiently finished to worship in and we intend to hold services, every Sunday*.

The civil war period and thereafter saw great strife and serious economic times for St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. The narrative of St. Stephen's Church again told of dedicated individuals who stepped up to support the church. The most recognized of these was James Woodward, a successful banker, (who attended St. Stephen's as a youth), provided funds for major repairs, building the bell tower and portico. In 1898 with the backing of the James T. Woodard family, the parish hall (now Woodward Hall) was built.

As St. Stephen's grew and the church school enrollment increased, a Parish Hall was needed. Stepping up again were dedicated families, Guild members and service groups. The Parish Hall was dedicated in 1961. Ladies of the parish and dedicated families raised monies to make the mortgage payments. The Parish Hall was paid off in full by 1969. Additionally the outstanding mortgage on the Church building was also paid off 7 years early through successful stewardship. Many more examples of stewardship at St. Stephen's in recent times are replete with similar examples.

As we look to the future with an eye to modernizing our HVAC system we are reminded to acknowledge the history of stewardship that has successfully brought us to the cherished, historical and beloved Church campus we enjoy today.

By: *George Balkoski*  
Vestry Member  
May 23, 2012

## Musical Notes



A hearty THANK YOU! and CONGRATULATIONS! to our choirs for their over-the-top presentation of Parry's *I was glad* on Easter Sunday. Preparing that one anthem—one of, if not my very favorite Anglican anthem, once I assured myself of the Spirit Singers' capability of singing high B flats, I floor-boarded it, to provide vocal support, which was available through the faithfulness of our Senior Choir, and thanks to the generosity of many in the congregation—to make this marvelous piece doable as it was composed (for children and adults). It will be difficult to out-do this one...

Thanks to all our musicians, and have a well deserved summer break!

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

***St. Stephen's Church Guild presents:***

# Spring Fling Fundraiser

**Saturday, June 9**

## **OUTSIDE FLEA MARKET**

**8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**

**(\$20. per space / \$15. if you bring your own table)**

**To reserve a space, call: 410-721-2881**

## **Bake Sale**

**8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

## **Barbecue Dinners**

**10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

**Chicken Dinners for Adults (\$8.)/Hot Dog Dinners for Kids (\$3.)**

**CARRY OUT ONLY**

## **Cooler on Wheels Raffle**

**Summer Theme w/ gift cards—total worth \$500.**

**Tickets are \$2. each or 3 for \$5**

**Drawing on June 10**



*Please come,  
and bring your friends!!!*



## 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](mailto:st_stephens@verizon.net)

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

[www.ststephens-severn.ang-md.org](http://www.ststephens-severn.ang-md.org)

The Rev. Steven W. Hagerman, *Rector*

### Come to SKY at **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**June 18-22**

**Pre-K through Grade 5**

**Register at:**

[www.ststephens-severn.ang-md.org/vbsregister.html](http://www.ststephens-severn.ang-md.org/vbsregister.html)



## Severn Parish—175th Anniversary Celebration

**The next Church Growth/175th Anniversary Planning Meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, June 4 at 7:00 p.m. in Woodward Hall. All are welcome!**

**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, June 4, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in Woodward Hall.** 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 Supper
- 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*