



The Severn Light

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Severn Parish

Crownsville, Maryland

January 2007

IN THIS ISSUE:

From the Pastor's Desk

Page 1

Float Away...

Page 2

Music Notes

Page 2

Youth News

Page 3

Lenten Series

Page 4

Stewardship

Page 4

Group Events

Page 5

Property Update

Page 6

Severn Light Survey

Page 6

Diocesan Survey

Pages 7 and 8

Annual Meeting Questions

Page 9

Vestry Nominations

Pages 9 and 10

Looking Back with ThanksLooking Forward with Hope

We shared a wonderful Advent and Christmas season together. Many extra chairs were needed to seat everyone for our Christmas Pageant Service and we had strong attendance and great music at our Choral Service. My thanks to Berney Jaroch Hagerman and the Church School Staff and Don Chandler, the Choir and guest musicians for helping us have a great Christmas Eve.



In the coming year among our priorities are our first steps in developing a new Confirmation program coordinated with the new minimum confirmation age of 15. (Please note the special announcement about the Youth and Family Meeting on Sunday, February 11 after the 10:00 a.m. service.)

We will be working with our young people beginning in Middle School in a two stage program that will make good use of the resources of Youth Alpha. Our Alpha program in the fall was a good experience of learning, fellowship and spiritual growth and sets the stage for more programs to strengthen these areas of our life together.

You will find two surveys in this edition of the newsletter. The first is from the Standing Committee of the Diocese which is preparing for the election of a new diocesan bishop which will take place at a special convention on March 29, 2008. The second is to aid us in efficient, cost effective communication. With the growing use of email, we are trying to determine how much of our communication can be done in this way and how much should still rely on the postal service. Your feedback will be appreciated. Both surveys can be returned to the office. There is a second part of the diocesan survey that will be done in a group process at the Annual Meeting. You will also find a preview of those questions in this newsletter with an additional question that will help us plan our parish ministry.

We are a parish blessed in many ways and I look forward to all of us working together to help St. Stephen's become all that God is calling us to be.

Father Hagerman

Float Away on Music and Chocolate!!
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10th ~ 6:30 PM
 (Snow date: Saturday, February 17th)

FEATURING A POT-LUCK CHOCOLATE DESSERT BUFFET

FREE-WILL OFFERING FOR A.S.P.



*What could be better than:
 An evening spent listening to great music,
 enjoying a dessert buffet of chocolate goodies,
 a floating treat for everyone,
 and the opportunity to do all this in support of the Episcopal Teen's
APPALACHIAN SERVICE PROJECT?!!*

**Please join us for this event.
 We will begin the evening in Church at 6:30 PM.**

**HOWEVER, we do need the donation of treats/goodies made with chocolate – dark,
 semi-dark, milk, white, you name it
 and we will enjoy it!**

Contact Berney with any questions.....

Speaking of music...

Musical Notes by Don Chandler, Organist-Choirmaster

Church music is a uniquely singing-oriented tradition; Western music notation owes its existence to church musicians of the 10th-16th centuries; the pitch names "do, re, mi, etc." are an acrostic of the (Latin) first syllables of successive phrases of an 11th-century hymn to John the Baptist by Guido d'Arezzo of Italy (see hymn 271). The earliest schools of the church (for children) were the choir schools of the 4th century.

In order to enhance singing in worship and to train current or future choir singers, I plan to start a **Schola Cantorum** (Singing School) at the end of January 2007, to give congregants and choir members an opportunity to begin or progress in the skills of sight singing, reading music, and ear training. Former Junior Choir members can pick up where they left off during the past few years in the music reading unit of their respective ribbon levels in the RSCM program. Adults (high school and older) can study music reading with the aid of a standard text (Sound Thinking), graded by ability. Levels all the way to college entry will be offered (vocal, choral). Children not formerly in Junior Choir are welcome also, beginning with 3^d graders. The school will continue 4-6 weeks for its first session, free of charge. Depending on interest, another session may be scheduled later in spring. Contact me to register for these sessions: Don Chandler, Organist-Choirmaster, 410-451-4366; ddpctuner@aol.com.

Episcopal Teens

ET would like to thank everyone who purchased Holiday Pies for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We are grateful to those with the courage to announce we may have overcooked a few. We will work next year to improve our product.

Our Homeless Ministry to Baltimore is still active. We are going up once a month to deliver the goodies prepared by "Our Brothers Keeper".

ET's Annual Lock-in is scheduled for Friday January 26th. The theme is "Sermon Says". The high schoolers are being asked to put to words important issues in the world. Glynis Kuhblank and crew will be selling Krispy Kreme Donuts on January 28th, we will have fifty dozen to distribute. There should be enough for all. ET would like to thank Rick Kuhblank for cleaning the ovens in the kitchen after our pie cooking events- "Great Job".

Items to remember in the month of February include The "Float Away On Music and Chocolate" evening scheduled for February 10th. ET would like to thank Berney Jaroch Hagerman for making ET the beneficiary of her grand party celebrating Valentines Day. Please make plans to come out and enjoy the music and chocolate. Lastly, be ready for the Pancake Supper scheduled for Tuesday February 20th. EDGE and ET will pull together to make this night another FAT Tuesday....

Sheri LaFleur, Advisor

On **E.D.G.E.**

EVERY DAY GOD EXPECTS

The New Year has begun and E.D.G.E. is busy already. But we would first like to pause and thank our congregation. We asked for help with Holiday Sharing and you all responded most generously. Many of you donated food and gifts. I very much appreciate your willingness to do the deliveries and that you understood when we asked that the EDGE kids make the delivery. The kids were definitely more touched by making the deliveries.

To our generous benefactress who donates to E.D.G.E. with the stipulation that the money be used for the kids, and not for outreach – Thank you! The kids saw "The Nativity" and that led to great discussions on biblical lineage. They will continue to celebrate your generosity and each others company at the Lock-in. Lady – I don't know how we could do it without you! But we give thanks that you provided us with such a wonderful opportunity to experience Christian Community.

Thank you to the Circle for your gift to our program. Final thank you to everyone that squeezed one more thing into busy schedules and helped support our Relay for Life participation by eating at Ledo's Jan 17. The turn out was overwhelming of all the communities invited, but it definitely seemed that *E.D.G.E. Out Cancer* had the lion's share of the support! It was great! We are winning – cancer deaths are down for the second straight year.

February 20th **E.D.G.E.** and **E.T.** host the Pancake Supper to cele-

brate Fat Tuesday. Please join us in Parish Hall for fun and fellowship. Tickets go on sale February 4th. See Meredith Kelly in the Nursery after the 8 am service or the E.D.G.E. kids in Parish Hall after 10 am service.

And that is only the start of our year. There's Relay for Life, Lock-in(s) and more! If you are in 6th – 8th grade, we invite you to bring a friend and join us! We meet the 1st and 3rd Sunday evenings of the month from 5-6:30 pm in the Parish Hall.

Lisa Eliot, EDGE Advisor



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Feb. 20, 2007
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Parish Hall

Adult \$5/children 2-12 \$3

Proceeds benefit the activities of
E.D.G.E. and **E.T.**

FFR☺G's

Fourth & Fifth Graders Relying On God

FFROGs had a busy year in 2006. 2007 will be even busier!

We are going to begin our year with a movie trip in February. We have some special things planned for the season of Lent, and summer will find us again supporting EDGE in their efforts in the Relay for Life.

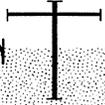
All members of St. Stephen's in fourth and fifth grade (and their friends of the same age range) should come and check us out!

Meredith Kelly, FFROG Advisor

Lenten Program 2007

Growing in Prayer

ENTER INTO
THE HOLY SEASON
OF LENT



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Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

In church, a meditation and prayer exercise will be offered on each week's topic in a service of Evensong/Evening Prayer

February 28th—An Introduction: Deepening Our Prayer Life

March 7th—Praise and Thanksgiving: Prayer's Forgotten Season

March 14th—Help Me Lord: Prayers of Petition

March 21st—Love On Its Knees: Intercessory Prayer

March 28th—Forgive Us Our Sins As We Forgive Those Who Sin Against Us: Penitential Prayer

STEWARDSHIP Update

To date we have received 117 pledges totaling over \$229,000. This includes 15 from families that are "new" or did not pledge in 2006. In addition, over half of our repeat pledgers raised their pledge amount for 2007 - a clear statement of commitment to St. Stephen's and the important ministry in which we are all engaged!

For those who wish to do so, there is still time to make a pledge for 2007. In addition to helping the Vestry plan and track income, making a pledge makes it easier for the tellers to record the weekly offering and facilitates the preparation of a quarterly statement recording your contributions - a useful document when it comes to tax time (which is not far off now).

As we head toward the Lenten season, St. Stephen's Stewardship program will focus its attention on the actual ministries of the Parish. If you have a ministry activity that you want to highlight in the Stewardship Corner (or through some other means), please contact Bryant Centofanti, Mike Duffy, Kathy Shahinian or Anne Young.

In His Service.

The Stewardship Committee



Youth and Family Meeting

for Middle School and High School students who have not been confirmed
Sunday, February 11
After 10:00 a.m. Service
Parish Hall

Father Hagerman will introduce our new Confirmation Preparatory Program

BINGO, BINGO, BINGO---FEBRUARY 2 AT 6:00 PM

The Circle will be holding a Bingo party for parish family and friends on Friday, Feb 2 at 6:00 PM. The cost will be \$5.00 and you will receive three playing cards. There will be special pricing for families and great prizes for adults and kids, as well as a raffle. Hot dogs, soda, and all the trimmings will be available to purchase for dinner. We hope you will join us for a fun time.



The Circle will not meet on the first Thursday of February, but we do hope to see every one at the Bingo party on Friday, February 2.

The Circle will meet Thursday, March 1, 2007 at 7:30 PM. The meeting will be in the Parish Hall. We will be discussing spring events and making plans for the fall. The opening prayer will be lead by Vicky Wolf. Please join us!

Carol McNemar, President of the Circle

CHURCH BUS TOUR

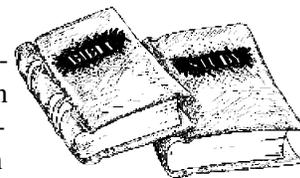
A bus tour of five Baltimore churches will be conducted on 12 May 2007 by James T. Wollon, Jr., architect and historian. The bus will depart the Diocesan Center at 8:30 AM, returning by 3 PM, visiting St. Thomas' Church, Garrison Forest (18th century), the Hannah More Academy Chapel (mid-19th Century-Gothic Revival), All Saints', Reisterstown (late 19th century-Romanesque Revival), Ascension, Westminster (Baltimore's first Gothic Revival architect), and St. Barnabas', Sykesville (late colonial period). Tickets are \$45 each, including lunch. Reservations by 25 April. Contact Jean Sunday, 410-672-3680, sundayofodenton@verizon.net.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

House Group – *Christian Community*

House Groups did not complete a Fall Bible study in 2006 since most of the members were involved in the wonderful Alpha program which dominated our attention for twelve weeks. However on January 8th 2007 a new ten-week study began entitled *Christian Community*. Meetings at present are held at the Regan's home on the second and fourth Monday evenings of the month at 7:00 pm.



Members from the Alpha program and any other members of the congregation are encouraged to attend or begin a new group perhaps on a different date with a different topic. Contact Father Hagerman, Irene (the church secretary) or the Regans for details.

Women of the Bible Group Study

A study of the Women of the Bible continues meeting on the first and third Mondays of the month at 12:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. This year's topics include Mary, Mother of Jesus; Elizabeth, Mother of John; Deborah Old Testament prophetess; Mary Magdalene and Lot's wife.

New members always welcome. Contact Irene, Monica Regan or Jean Cox.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flower Chart for 2007 is in the narthex. If you would like to give flowers in honor of a birth, baptisms, birthdays, anniversaries, etc. or in memory of a loved one, call Gail Brooks, Altar Guild Director, 301-261-0647, or contact the church secretary.



What Is Happening at St. Stephen's

I want to continue to let you know what is going on with our property at St. Stephen's. The Nave windows are in the last stages of production. The silk screens are being cut for the dedication panes, and will be fused with the colored art glass for finishing. When all of the panes have been inserted into the frames and glazed, then the entire window will be returned to Renew Renovations for final staining and finishing of the frames. We are looking at the beginning of February for installation. I cannot guarantee that they will be in place for the Parish meeting.

We had a major water problem January 10. The electrical line broke between the well pump and the main system in the furnace room. The new line has been run, the new tank for the iron treatment, and the boiler, has been repaired. The cost for the new tank and brine tank was \$1335 and was installed by the Mayes Plumbing Co. The cost for running the new line was \$345 and was completed by Wilson Well Company. We have Hugh Seborg and Pete Coakley to thank for "bleeding" the lines so that we got heat upstairs in the Parish Hall. The work completed for the boiler will be approximately \$500.

The Bell Tower houses one bell which is rung each Sunday before a service begins. The bell is also rung after a funeral. The bell had been pulled by two ropes rather than one and had gotten "hung up" so that it could not ring at all. We have Meade Turner, Jr. and Meade Turner III to thank for fixing it so that it rings again. A big THANK YOU to them for bringing a long ladder up to the church and completing the job needed!! In the future, if you are an usher for any service in the church, please make sure that the ropes are put up on the hook provided and then put the hook pole inside the narthex up on the shelf above the coats.

The Property Committee has done a stellar job this past year and I would like to thank them for a job well done.

Meade Turner III
Carol McNemar
Pete Coakley

Anne and Mack Young
Richie LaFleur
Tom Gillen

Leo Landry
Rob Clemmons, Ex Officio
Tony Dingbaum
Berney Jaroch Hagerman

Our Sexton, Lee Devereaux, continues to accomplish many tasks for the parish. Please ask him if you can help as occasionally he needs help in carrying tables from the Parish Hall to the garage behind the Rectory.

Lucile Seborg, Junior Warden

Severn Light Survey

I hope you have noticed our new Severn Light format. We have made the change so that it would be easier to read if it was sent via email. At one point in the near future, we will email the newsletter to you—**only if you choose**. You would surely receive your copy sooner than the postal service can deliver. And just think.....no more mangled newsletters! Please let us know your thoughts.

NAME: _____

Yes. Email the Severn Light to: _____

Continue to send me the Severn Light through the mail.

The *Standing Committee for Bishop Search and Transition*
would like your input in the following survey.

Please fill out and return to church office as soon as possible, but **no later** than February 4.

**PART ONE:
PRIORITIES FOR THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF MARYLAND**

Please indicate by circling the appropriate number the priority the diocese should give to each specific goal over the next decade.

	HIGH PRIORITY	MODERATE PRIORITY	LOW PRIORITY
<u>MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT</u>			
Enable members of the Diocese to witness to Christ in daily life.	1	2	3
Identify and train lay persons for leadership in parish and diocese.	1	2	3
Identify and prepare persons for ordained ministry.	1	2	3
Support those already ordained.	1	2	3
Encourage educational formation for adults.	1	2	3
Encourage educational formation for children/youth	1	2	3
<u>CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT</u>			
Establish new congregations.	1	2	3
Seek new models for parish ministry, e.g., shared clergy, lay leadership	1	2	3
Bring new persons to Christ.	1	2	3
Strengthen existing congregations.	1	2	3
Seek means of giving intentional expression to the Church's commitment to ethnic and racial inclusiveness.	1	2	3
Promote individual spiritual growth through diocesan programs.	1	2	3
<u>STEWARDSHIP</u>			
Demonstrate and teach a comprehensive understanding of Christian stewardship	1	2	3
Encourage vestries to develop personal and corporate statements about intentional stewardship of time, talent, and financial resources	1	2	3
Promote a sense of ministry as stewards of the earth.	1	2	3
Develop stewardship education programs for persons of all ages.	1	2	3
Encourage vestries to consider and implement concepts such as year-round stewardship, narrative budgets, and the like.	1	2	3
<u>MISSION & OUTREACH</u>			
Meet human needs (e.g., feed the hungry, shelter the homeless).	1	2	3
Speak out on public issues from a Christian perspective.	1	2	3
Work to advance unity with other Christians.	1	2	3
Increase the sense of unity among the congregations of the diocese.	1	2	3

(next page)

PART TWO: DESIRED QUALITIES IN A BISHOP

Bishops wear a variety of "hats" as they carry out their ministries. Please place an "X" next to the six (6) qualities you believe most important for the next Bishop of Maryland.

- Gifted preacher
- Energetic pastor to lay leaders
- Dynamic leader of liturgy
- A heart for evangelism
- Skillful manager of people and resources
- Acknowledged leader in The Episcopal Church
- Innovative teacher and theologian
- Guardian of tradition
- Effective pastor to the clergy
- Recognized leader in the wider Christian community
- Person whose life is deeply formed by Scripture and prayer
- Passionate leader/spokesperson in the community for issues of justice and peace
- Visionary planner to meet future challenges for the diocese
- Reconciler/healer of division
- Committed to interfaith and ecumenical cooperation

PART THREE: ABOUT YOU

Please help us to know a little about you.

Age _____ Sex _____ Race _____ Clergy _____ Lay _____

Congregation _____ Location _____

Number of years you have attended The Episcopal Church

- 4 years or less
- 5 to 9 years
- 10 to 19 years
- 20 years or more

Membership in The Episcopal Church: Baptized _____ Confirmed _____ Received _____ No _____

Service (at any time in the last 5 years)

- Member of parish committee
- Member of vestry
- Member of diocesan committee
- Delegate to Regional Council / Diocesan Convention
- Served on two or more diocesan committees

Annual Meeting:

Along with the election of new Vestry members, there will be a dialogue of the following questions at the Annual Meeting on February 4. Please review them before the Meeting, as well as the biographical sketches of the Vestry nominees. YOUR input is important!

Preview of Annual Meeting Questions

1. What are the three (3) issues facing The Episcopal Church as a whole that are important to and/or significant for you?
2. What are the three (3) issues facing The Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Maryland that are important to and/or significant for you?
3. What are the three (3) issues facing St. Stephen's Church that are important to and/or significant for you?

Vestry Nominations:

Marcia Clemmons is a nurse executive with many years of professional experience and has been a member of St. Stephen's since moving to the Crofton area with her husband Rob in 2000. Marcia serves our faith community as both a Lector and Lay Eucharistic Minister and also served on the committee of sixty that played a major role developing the Parish Profile that was used during the search process for our Rector. She and Rob regularly attend the home group bible studies and recently completed the Alpha course given at St. Stephen's. Marcia and Rob have three children (James, Mandy and Patricia) and six grandchildren (Abby, Lucy, Bailey, Ivy, Raziel and Isabella) and still find time to volunteer at church functions and assist at Parish work days.

Pete Coakley has been a member of St. Stephen's Church since 1975 – about 32 years- and has served numerous terms on the Vestry. He is territory manager for York Heating and Air Conditioning Distributors here in Maryland. Right now, he serves St. Stephen's as an usher at the 8:00 a.m. service, and as a member of the Cemetery Committee and the Property Committee. His interest lies in the upkeep of our historical church property. One of the things he would like to see accomplished is the repointing of the bricks on the outside of the church (that is, the replacement of deteriorating mortar.) He likes to do whatever he can to take care of the needs that arise here at St. Stephen's. And if he can't do it– he will find some who will.

Richard LaFleur: I am a graduating Senior attending Old Mill High School. I have been a member of St. Stephen's Church since I was 5 years old. When I was in Middle School I was a member of EDGE and am now an active member of ET. As a member of ET, I continue to participate in our ASP outreach mission. Three years ago I joined the Sunday worship team as a lay reader. I served as the youth representative on the Vestry in 2006 and look forward to serving as an active member in 2007.

+My name is **Barry Regan**, a long time committed Anglican worshipper and member of St Stephen's Church. Since my family and I returned from Australia in 1999, I have had the privilege to serve God and St. Stephen's in a variety of ways. This includes: Church Treasurer, Lay Eucharistic Minister, Lector and Adult Choir Member. In addition, I regularly gave a helping hand to a number of church projects designed to keep His house in good order. My family and I have been blessed to have experienced first hand, Christian brotherly love and service others have given to the worldwide Anglican Church while abroad. I believe God is now calling me at this critical point in the life of the Episcopal Church and its relationship with the

Continued on page 10

Vestry Nominations continued from page 9

Anglican Church, to serve on the Vestry. If elected, I will faithfully serve God and the members of St Stephen's Church and its real mission, bringing others to know Jesus Christ as the one and only way to Salvation.

Lucile M. Seborg: I have been a member of St. Stephen's Church since my confirmation in 1982. I have served as the President of the Women's Guild, was the Vestry Secretary for three years, have sung in the choir 24 years, headed up the Prayer Chain which became the Clusters, oversaw the Guild dinners for 7 years (and continue to help), and am a present member of the Hospitality Committee. I ran for the unexpired term of another Vestry member and have served 2 years. In March of 2006, I accepted the nomination to perform the duties of Junior Warden for the Vestry. I am honored to be asked to run for another term and will serve, if elected, to the best of my ability. I am very interested in the property of the parish being kept in good condition, the youth groups, and outreach, the spiritual climate, as well as growth of the parish. If you have questions: 410-721-2108.

Dorothy Waugh: I have been a member of St. Stephen's since 1978 and a member of the Episcopal church since birth. Currently, I am acting as Registrar for the Parish. I also participate in My Brothers' Keeper, Women of the Bible study group, the Hospitality Committee, and I found the Alpha program last fall both interesting and exciting. My daughter and her family are also members of this parish. I am retired from the Federal Government and enjoy being able to have time to follow my many interests. I believe we have a beautiful campus and hope to spend time helping make the grounds more beautiful for the spring.

Sunday, February 4 **ANNUAL MEETING** after the 9:00 a.m. Service

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

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

traditional language

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

contemporary language with music

10:00 a.m. Church School (Sept-May)

Pre-Kindergarten through High School Classes

NURSERY AVAILABLE FOR ALL SUNDAY SERVICES

The Rev. Steven W. Hagerman, *Rector*