



The Severn Light

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Severn Parish
Crownsville, Maryland
March 2008

IN THIS ISSUE:

Maunder Thursday
Page 2

Musical Notes
Page 3

Writing the Sacred
Page 4

Property Reports
Page 5

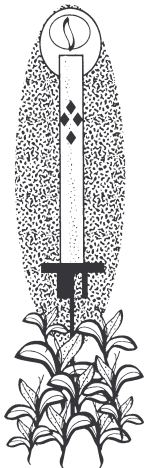
Stewardship Update
Page 6

Episcopal Teens
Page 6

Circle News
Page 7

News Shorts
Page 9

**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.



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

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 worship and prayer.

March 16, Palm Sunday

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

March 17, Monday of Holy Week

9:30 a.m.—Morning Prayer
5:00 p.m.—Evening Prayer

March 18, Tuesday of Holy Week

12:00 p.m. — Noonday Prayer
5:00 p.m.—Evening Prayer

March 19, Wednesday of Holy Week

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

March 20, Maundy Thursday

9:30 a.m.—Morning Prayer
6:00 p.m.—Agape Meal, Holy Eucharist, and Stripping the Altar to prepare for Good Friday
Prayer Vigil begins after the evening service and continues until Good Friday at noon

March 21, Good Friday

12:00 p.m. noon—Good Friday Liturgy from the Book of Common Prayer
7:30 p.m.—Stations of the Cross

March 23, Easter Sunday

8:00 and 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist

HOSANNA
HOSANNA
HOSANNA

*Enter into the passion
and glory of the Lord*

©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

PARISH FAMILY ACTIVITIES THANK YOU ~ ONE AND ALL !!

The **Shrove Tuesday Soup Supper** was a wonderful success and the soup bowl project was certainly worth all the time and efforts of the wonderful artists who helped create the masterpieces. Another trip to “Express It” and the opportunity to paint pottery for an outreach project is being planned for the Fall. The support of those who attended the supper is deeply appreciated.

The **Pot-Luck Brunch** on **March 3rd** was a fellowship gathering of good food and the opportunity to welcome some of our newest members and families. With the theme of St. Patrick’s Day and the warm sunshine and a Family Sunday project, the day was certainly complete.



Keep your calendars free for the upcoming **Pot-Luck Brunch** planned for **Sunday, April 6th**, when the Confirmands will be presenting PowerPoint Biographical Presentations. This will be a genuine opportunity to support the Confirmation Class and prayerfully mentor this fine group of young people.

MAUNDY THURSDAY at St. Stephen’s

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.

At about 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.

Musical Notes



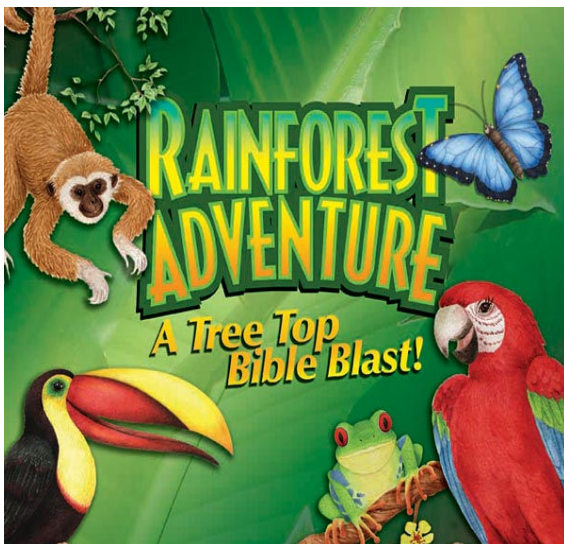
by *Don Chandler*, Organist-Choirmaster

Warmer, milder days, the smell of earth turned, welcomed humidity, buds bursting forth –it’s almost spring! In church music that means many things, most having to do with Holy Week, Easter and Pentecost. Musical highlights of Holy Week include the debut of our new junior choir, *Spirit Singers*, on Palm Sunday, March 16 at the 10:00 a.m. service. Our utmost thanks goes to Amy Laughlin, director, for volunteering to start this program and direct the group of children in kindergarten through 5th grade. We have a choir! Not just a group of 12! We look forward to your first service in song at St. Stephen’s!

The **Senior Choir** will present a setting of “Jesus, Priceless Treasure,” by Buxtehude during the dark service after Communion on Maundy Thursday (during the Stripping of the Altar), reminding us not just of the disciples’ dereliction of Jesus in his hour of trial, but also of our holding him close, by contrast. Good Friday evening includes J.S. Bach’s chorale, “O Lamb of God, most holy,” an expansion, in triplicate, of that phrase from the Communion liturgy ending with “Grant us peace.” Easter Sunday brings Dr. Mark Hornbaker, tenor, to us again from Charleston, WV, singing with the choir and soloing. The Senior Choir, plus instruments, presents Cesar Franck’s “Psalm 150” and Charles Wood’s “This Joyful Eastertide.”

The **Crofton Choral Fest** will be held on April 27 (Sunday) at 3:00 p.m. at Seton Parish RC Church, Route 424. Rehearsals remaining are: Tuesday, March 25, 7:30 p.m. at Prince of Peace Presbyterian Church (on Crofton Parkway next to Crofton Country Club); Tuesday, April 22, 7:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church (on Crofton Parkway across from the tennis courts of Crofton Country Club); and Saturday, April 26, 9:00 a.m. at Seton Parish RC Church. This year’s festival is already off to a running start!

I plan to hold a Sight-singing course, the **Schola Cantorum** (Singers’ School), of 6 weeks’ duration starting in April, open to anyone from 3rd grade (accompanied by parent) on up. Please let me know of your interest in joining; the class is open to those wishing to continue from earlier classes and to those starting “from scratch” in learning to sing, to read music, and to obtain the ear-training and historical foundations for same. Classes will probably be on Sunday before or after church or on Monday or Tuesday evenings. We use the text *Sound Thinking*, (\$20.) Contact me, please, with your scheduling preferences: Don Chandler, 410-451-4366 or ddpctuner@aol.com. Have a wonderful spring, filled with God’s gift of music.



Vacation Bible School

June 23rd ~ 27th

“Join the FUN!”

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. Any help you can offer will be happily accepted.

THANKS ~ Berney

410-721-3958 or shbjh@verizon.net

Writing the Sacred

.....reclaim your soul's voice



If you want to write, even if you have never put pen to paper but were curious to try, *Writing the Sacred*, a Psalm-writing and poem-making workshop, may be just the thing you've been looking for. Veteran workshop leader, Ray McGinnis, has a knack for drawing bursts of imagination out of people who might not know they had it in them.

McGinnis, a journal writer, poet and psalm enthusiast, has taught over 7000 people how to write poetry, prayers, diaries and autobiographies, guiding them to bring their whole heart, mind and spirit to the process.

The *Writing the Sacred* Workshop will be held in Annapolis on the morning of Saturday, April 5, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The workshop is hosted by St. Philip's Episcopal Church. Donation \$10. Light refreshments provided. For more information, you may contact the church office at 410-841-6717. *Writing the Sacred* is also the title of Ray McGinnis' first book, published in Kelowna, British Columbia by Northstone. Copies will be available for \$20.

McGinnis is a graduate of the Center for Journal Therapy in Denver, the Centre for Christian Studies in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and the Banff Centre for Fine Arts *Writing with Style* program in Banff, Alberta. He also serves on the Advisory Board of the Poetic Medicine Institute in California.

Please register in advance. Deadline is March 30.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Please make checks payable and mail to:

St. Philip's Episcopal Church
730 Bestgate Road
Annapolis, MD 21401

DID YOU KNOW?

2008 marks the **170th anniversary** of Severn Parish-St. Stephen's. In a document signed by 15 parish members on April 5, 1838, Severn Parish applied for admission to the Diocese of Maryland and was received by the Convention of May, 1838.

What's Happening at St. Stephen's

The Vestry voted to install a propane fueled generator, which will be located at the side of the Parish Hall. This generator will power the electricity for selected breakers in the Parish Hall. One of the main ones will be the breaker that supplies electricity to the well pump. This will enable us to have water in the Parish Hall, Church, and Rectory when we lose power for the church grounds. We will also be able to heat the Parish Hall but will not be able to run the air conditioner in the summer months. The generator is being installed by *A to Z Contracting*. The propane tanks and supply lines are being installed by *Arundel Gas & Water*. We will be using two vertical tanks, each containing 120 gallons of propane.

The generator will turn on every two weeks for 30 seconds just to test itself. The generator is 7 KW and will also supply electricity to selected lighting in the Parish Hall. The generator will have an automatic switch which will turn on within 30 seconds of losing power.

The cost of the generator is \$4000 and there will be a \$200 maintenance fee per year, after the first year. The cost to fill the propane tanks and the installation is \$1394.50. The tanks will be filled twice per year, and if needed, additional fills. If the tanks are totally empty, the cost will be \$692, or a lesser amount if not empty. There will be a \$15 delivery charge when the tanks are filled. The money to purchase and install the generator and the tanks is being taken from our Capital Improvement Fund. The maintenance, delivery, additional fuel, etc. will come from the Operating Expenses Fund.

The installation will occur within the first two weeks of March. Past history from the previous renters of the Rectory shows that we lose electricity to the entire church campus up to 8 times per year. This installation is a "long overdue" need of our parish. We will also need to put up a PVC type fence around the tanks and generator. This will be taken up with the Property Committee, but I wanted to let the Parish know that this is in the plan.

Thanks to Hugh Seborg and Greg Yuhas for replacing the spot light, inside, at the front of the nave, replacing the battery to the smoke alarm in the Parish Hall, and setting the clock in the Parish Hall. Mack Young fixed the toilet downstairs in the church building. Richie LaFleur repaired the door to the Parish Hall. Everyone working together gets so much accomplished!! Thank you to everyone!!

The *Jani-King Cleaning Service* has been doing a good job so far in February. If anyone has a complaint, please call me or leave a note in my box.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Those who have agreed to serve on the property committee for this next year are:

Anne & Mack Young
Berney Jaroch-Hagerman
Carol McNemar
Marcia Clemmons
Meade Turner III
Phil Steptoe
Greg Rothrock
Pete Coakley, Sr. Warden (ad hoc)
Lucile M. Seborg

The property committee meets when needed to help evaluate projects which need to be taken care of regarding the property at St. Stephen's. We will be having a **Parish Work Day** in May, which will be announced later. I would like for someone in the Parish to be responsible for replacing the bulbs in the Nave which burn out from time to time. Please call me at 410-721-2108 if you can help with replacing bulbs.

In His Service,
Lucile M. Seborg, Junior Warden

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE NEW CHURCH ROOF

Our goal is \$45,000.
We have **\$16,925.**
in contributions so far.



Stewardship Update

To date, 119 Parish families and members have made pledges for 2008 totaling \$233,953. Like last year, over 40% of the contributors increased their pledge over what they pledged for 2007. In addition, 13 of the pledges for 2008 have come from new families or parishioners who had not pledged previously, a sign of our continued renewal at St. Stephen's. *A heartfelt thank you to all of you for your offering of sacrifice to the Lord.*

Despite this generous giving, we are nonetheless approximately \$15,000 short of the Vestry's 2008 pledge goal. To those parishioners that may still be considering their 2008 offering, we encourage you to prayerfully consider joining your fellow parishioners who have made a pledge to St. Stephen's for 2008.

In His Name,
Michael Duffy
Stewardship Chair

EPISCOPAL TEENS (ET) PREPARE FOR APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT

ASP Destination July 6 through July 12:

Logan County was formed in 1824. It is named for Chief Logan, a Mingo American Indian leader in the era before the American Revolutionary War, whose revenge for the brutal killing of his family members by American frontiersmen helped spark the 1774 conflict known as Dunmore's War. Logan became famous for a speech, later known as "Logan's Lament", which he supposedly delivered after the war. Important details about Logan have been disputed by scholars, including his name and whether or not the words of "Logan's Lament" were actually his.

The Battle of Blair Mountain was the largest organized armed uprising in American labor history and led almost directly to the labor laws currently in effect in the United States of America. For nearly a week in late August and early September 1921, in Logan County, West Virginia, between 10,000 and 15,000 coal miners confronted state and federal troops in an effort to unionize the southwestern West Virginia mine counties. Unionization had succeeded elsewhere as part of a demographic boom that was triggered by the extension of the railroad and was characterized by unprecedented immigrant hiring and exploitation in the region. The battle was the final act in a series of violent clashes that have also been termed the Redneck War, from the color of bandannas worn by the miners around their necks for friend-or-foe identification, and the likely impetus of the common usage of the original Scottish term *redneck* in the vernacular of the United States.

ET is Springing into Action:

On **Sunday March 16th**, the ET kids will have various ASP displays set up in the Parish Hall for both services to enjoy. Please stop by to hear testimony of "Who we serve, where we serve, what we do and what tools we use." This should be a very enlightening presentation for folks of all ages. Simple refreshments will be served.

ET Activity Abounds:

In light of our next journey to the Appalachian Mountains, our fundraising will be an ongoing effort. You can enjoy donuts, car washes and possibly a Golf Outing, if you are a local Hacker.

Sheri LaFleur, ET Advisor

Circle News

SUMMER CAMP OUTREACH

At the March 2 Family Sunday service we heard a sermon on prison ministry which is celebrated during Lent in the Diocese of Maryland. Father Hagerman spoke of *Camp Amazing Grace* that is held at the Bishop Claggett Retreat Center each summer. *Camp Amazing Grace* is a camp for young people who have an incarcerated parent/parents. For one week, that child is able to relax, renew, and just be a kid.

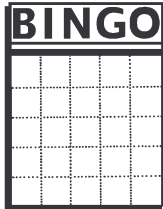


The Circle will be sponsoring two campers this summer, costing \$500. per child. In the fall of 2007, Cheryl and Ben Brown made a presentation to our group making us aware of this very worthy camp. Should you have questions concerning *Camp Amazing Grace* you may speak with the Browns or click on the following address from our diocesan website: <http://prisonministry.ang-md.org/camp/index.htm>

B-I-N-G-O, B-I-N-G-O, B-I-N-G-O

Friday, March 28, 2008

6:00 TO 8:30 p.m.



Everyone is invited to come and play bingo in the Parish Hall on Friday, March 28. The Circle will host another **Family Night** with prizes and much fun. A dinner of hotdogs, baked beans, chips, dessert, and soda will be served for \$3.00. Bingo cards will cost \$1.00 each.

Everyone is invited to come, young and "young at heart" for an evening of fun, friendship, and great prizes!!

SPRING DINNER

Saturday, May 3

3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

It is time to start thinking about the **SPRING DINNER**. The menu will include: ham, turkey salad, cranberry jello salad, new potatoes, corn pudding, green beans, dessert, and beverage.



Advance tickets will be available after services beginning April 6.

Adults \$15.00 (\$17. at the door); **children (ages 5-12)** \$7.00; and **under 5** free. Carry out will be available.

The St. Stephen's Circle and St. Stephen's Guild will work together for this dinner. But they will need your help as well. Watch for sign-up sheets in the narthex in April. Please give just a bit of your time to make this the most successful dinner yet! Proceeds help with parish projects and community outreach.

Also, stop by that same day to check out the Guild's **BAKE SALE** in the lower level of the Parish Hall beginning at 10:00 a.m.



Announcing SUMMER ACTIVITIES at the Bishop Claggett Center Buckeystown, Maryland

According to its website, “The Bishop Claggett Center is the retreat, camp, and conference facility that is owned by the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland. The center encompasses a 277 acre Frederick County working farm situated on a bluff overlooking Sugarloaf Mt. and the scenic Monocacy River Valley...The Claggett Center...offers youth programs, including summer camps, year round conferences, and a variety of programs for adults.”



This spring, they will be offering opportunities for young adults to meet

- **May 30-31** for those in the 25-30 age range, and
- **May 30-June 1** for 19-24 year olds (college age).

This is a new outreach for the Center, one that we hope will prove to be quite successful.

Information & registration forms can be obtained from their website: www.bishopclaggett.org, or by writing to: info@bishopclaggett.org, or by calling: 301-874-5147, Ext 102.



Dates for 2008 Claggett Summer Camps

June 22 – 27	Come Together Camp (NEW Activities differentiated by age group, siblings & friends can attend together)	Grades 4-11
July 6-9	Mini Camp	Grades 2-5
July 6-11	Youth Camp	Grades 3-5
July 13-18	Middle High Week	Grades 6-8
July 13-18	Youth Adventure	Camp Grades 4-6
July 20 -25	High School Week	Grades 9-12
July 27-Aug 1	Mid Adventure	Grades 6-9
August 22-24	Family of Faith Weekend	Everybody

NEWS SHORTS

ANOTHER REMINDER !!

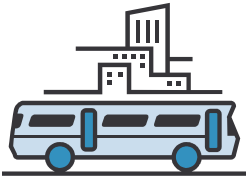
BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.....

CHRISTMAS WILL BE HERE!

A little s-t-r-e-t-c-h, but one can always hope...

Plans are underway for another trip to New York City to see the Radio City Music Hall Production. TWO buses have been reserved for **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2008.**

The final costs are still being arranged, but are not anticipated to increase too much from the \$137.00 that our trip on November 30th cost each individual. I do expect that our final roster will need to be in place by mid-June (as with the previous trip). I will keep you posted, but you are certainly free to let me know anytime if you want to be on the list.



If you wonder how the trip was on November 30th, I can tell you that to the person we *all* had a fantastic time, were thoroughly impressed with the *Tours and More Company* and their organization and efficiency, were thrilled with the sites and the show, and more than a few of us are already planning on boarding a bus on December 5th.

Once again, I will be the arrangee... arranger... arrange it... (TO DATE, 21 People have reserved seats – each bus can accommodate 50 people.)

PEACE ~ Berney Jaroch-Hagerman

shbjh@verizon.net

410-721-3958

MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

The Wednesday morning quilters are looking for used mattress covers and blankets (any size in clean, usable condition). These items will be used as filling for the home-made sleeping bags. Please no comforters; they are too thick for this purpose.

Any donations will be greatly appreciated and can be left in the Parish Hall with a note indicating it is for "My Brother's Keeper."

GUILD PROGRAMMING

St. Stephen's Guild continues its activities in new and interesting ways. This past Thursday, after sharing a morning Eucharist, they traveled to St. James' Church, Lothian, for a tour and talk, then had lunch at the Pirate's Cove Restaurant to round out the day.

On Thursday, April 3, their program will be held at the Parish Hall with guest speaker, Elizabeth Wyble, an interior designer, ready to give tips on decorating your home without "breaking the bank." *All* women in the parish are welcomed to join them for Eucharist at 9:30 a.m., then meeting and program to follow.

CROFTON CHRISTIAN CARING COUNCIL

Our participation in the Crofton Christian Caring Council, which provides emergency assistance to the needy in our community, also includes stacking the food pantry, which is located at Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Crofton. Canned goods- vegetables, soups and meats (Spam), dry goods, paper products are among the products that are in short supply. Any help is greatly appreciated and can be deposited in the CCCC container in our church narthex.

They are also in need of an accountant to assist with IRS filings.

If you would like to become more involved with this important ministry, leave your name and number with the church secretary and she will have a CCCC representative contact you.

SUMMER STAFF AT CLAGGETT

Make a difference in someone's life. Apply to help work with youth at the Bishop Claggett Center during their summer camp weeks. They need: nurses, senior counselors, junior counselors, and volunteers. Training is available.

For applications and more information, call Donna Kerner at 301-874-5147 ext. 102 or email her at: dkerner@bishopclaggett.org.

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

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*

EASTER SUNDAY

SERVICES

MARCH 23

8:00 & 10:00 A.M.



SPRING DINNER

SATURDAY, MAY 3

3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Adults: \$15. Advance ticket sales (\$17. at the door)

Children Ages 5-12: \$7. **Under 5 years:** free

Take outs available

DINNER MENU

baked ham	cranberry fruit jello	fresh rolls
green beans	turkey salad	dessert
corn pudding	new potatoes	beverages

Baked Good Sale in Lower Level Parish Hall 10 am—6 pm