

THE BRANCH

The Newsletter of St. Bartholomew's Church



ADVENT TO EPIPHANY AT ST. B'S

January 2010



"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

John 15:5,8 NIV



Our Mission

We are a family of believers (kingdom community), on a journey to the fulfillment of our God-given purpose.

Our mission is:

- 1) To bring people to know Jesus Christ;
- 2) To provide clear and life-changing discipleship training;
- 3) To help people discern their life's purpose and provide opportunities for them to fulfill that purpose in ministry and mission. The fruit of our endeavor is that God be glorified in all the world (worship).



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Charlie Reasor, junior warden

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Wirdzek, Carmen Hall, Dorman Burtch, Denise
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Charlie Reasor. (Officers: Dan Cleary, treasurer and
Gary Mumme, clerk)

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Above: After providing shuttle service for the ECW Advent Party, Steven Lefebvre (left) and Rocky Arnold crash the party for some snacks. Photo by Bev Mahan.

Our next issue of the *The Branch* will be the annual Lenten edition. Submissions will be accepted no later than February 12. Articles and photos can be sent to:
editor@stbs.net



Don't Miss the Point of Epiphany

Making the Good News of Christ Known

In the liturgical calendar, Christmas segues right into the often-ignored season of Epiphany. We are so busy cleaning up after the festivities and then preparing for the advent of a new year that the impact often passes us by.

In some traditions Epiphany is a time for house blessings; in others it is a period of intense and intentional evangelism. It ought to be a motivational time for us all!

We understand the word 'epiphany' to mean 'uncovering' or 'unveiling' and the Gospel narratives throughout the season draw our attention to those times when the impact of the Christ is made known or 'manifested' not only to the first century participants, but to contemporary readers as well.

The story of the coming of the magi to discover Christ in Bethlehem stands as a reminder of the universal nature of Christ's ministry to the whole world, rather than being limited to a particular nationality or geographic region of the Hebrews. The narrative of Christ changing water into wine reminds us of how our Lord's ministry is intended to engage the whole community in the celebration of his saving work, as well as inviting us to understand that his delight is to take the common, the ordinary (water) and make it extraordinary (wine). (This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him. John 2:11)

The primary point of the season is clear. God wants the world, the whole world, to know that the person of His Son was being sent to them all, regardless of ethnic origin, race, religion or other cultural identification

tags. This is the message the church is commissioned to carry even today.

God is still at work calling the world to His side and he needs us to partner with him. Just as the miracle of water being changed to wine manifested His glory and resulted in many putting their faith in Jesus, so today, God wants many to come to put their faith in Christ because they see him at work changing us.

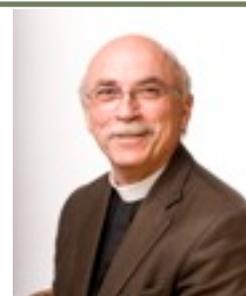
As men and women like you and me take the Gospel seriously and allow the Christ to change our lives, then and only then will the testimony of our lips be listened to by people who actually want to hear

It is highly unlikely that anyone will come to believe just because of sound theology, as necessary as that is. Nor is it likely that many will put their faith in Jesus because we do the liturgy so well, or sing in perfect pitch or have the most spectacular campus in the city. All of these are important but it is when the unbelieving world sees the transformational power of God at work in His children that they come to

KINGDOM TALK

by Fr. Jerry Smith

Rector



take seriously the message on the lips of His children!

When those wise men from the east made the pilgrimage to find the Christ, the world watched with wonder. What would make these men pick up and travel to a small community in the middle of an un-prosperous land? They watched with curiosity at what charged them to make these changes in their routine and then heard the testimony on their lips once they had found the child-king. Their lives and their testimony would be the witness that invited others to follow in their same footsteps.

So it will be today. As men and women like you and me take the Gospel seriously and allow the Christ to change our lives, then and only then will the testimony of our lips be listened to by people who actually want to hear.

Epiphany is about making the good news of the Christ known, and you and I are called to be co-workers with God in the accomplishing of this task of 'unveiling'. As we allow Christ sway in our lives then His Glory will be revealed and others will come to put their faith in Him.

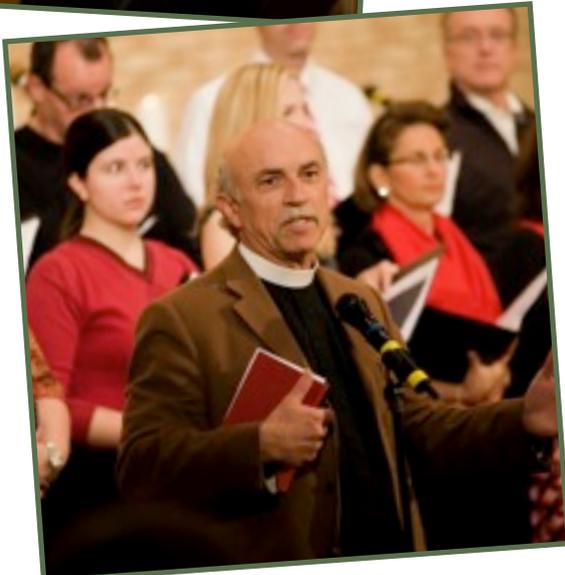
Together with Christ we will witness the miracle of the extension of his Kingdom!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jerry".

You may contact Jerry Smith at: jerrysmith@stbs.net



St. B's Family Christmas



Photos by Katherine Bomboy





Photos by Marjie Smith



Remembering Henry Martin

by *Marjie Smith*

msscribbler@comcast.net

Two days before Christmas, St. Bartholomew's said goodbye to one of the church's most faithful servants. If you didn't know Henry Martin by name, you would know him by sight. Henry was the man behind the sound console in church; the one setting up portable audio-visual equipment in the parish hall or the gym. You heard the musicians because Henry saw that you did. You accessed tapes of sermons because Henry made them.

Henry was always there. Yes, it was part of his job as part-time sound engineer, but he went miles beyond what duty required.

Typical of Henry, the last thing he did on earth was text David Schober instructions regarding setup of the console. Having been seriously ill from a lung infection, he was unable to get to church on the Sunday before Christmas. David and fellow sound engineer Aaron Sefton were stepping in. But they had questions.

And Henry was answering them. At 2 p.m., David received very specific directions about the configurations. At 2:22 p.m., David texted another question. He never received an answer. At about 2:15 p.m., Henry's wife of 40 years, Deborah, found him dead.

Not once had he mentioned, while texting, how he was doing. That was Henry.

It is easy for us, as congregants, to assume people like Henry will always be there making our lives better. Minutes after word got out that Henry had passed away, people were in shock. Tears were flowing. Then the accolades

and stories began. Henry had lived large in people's lives.

Terry Blankenship, who has known Henry since they were young, said, "When Jesus saw Nathanael coming, he remarked that he had no guile. I have known Henry for almost 30 years. He had no guile, ever. He was always the same. Always. And that sincerity and understatedness lent such power to his life."

Blankenship recalls playing catch-up with Henry while attending his first St B's men's retreat about a year ago. Henry suddenly looked at Terry and said, "You know Terry, it is SO good to see you here today."

Blankenship was "floored" by the simplicity and sincerity of Henry's comment and believes the power of Henry's example lay in his "heartfelt and direct way of relating to others. He had no guile and has always been a transforming example for me."

Some went to Henry's Facebook page and posted farewell messages:

"Thank you for teaching me about servanthood through your actions. I miss you." – from a sound engineer.

"Henry, I write this with tears in my eyes and a pit in my stomach. You, Henry, are missed! You have been what it means to be a servant ..." – from a fellow staff member.

Most of the pictures on his Facebook page have been posted by Henry and



Photo by Katherine Bomboy

Deborah's youngest daughter, Lindsay. Lindsay has seven older siblings, including one who died while her parents served as missionaries in the Sudan. The photos show Henry as we knew him: even-keeled, undemanding, and happy to be in the presence of those he loved.

But as with any of us, Henry has been on a journey – a journey, first to, and then with, Jesus. His journey ended on December 20, 2009. Like the shepherds before him, Henry had arrived at the manger. Perhaps, the shepherds, like Henry, also arrived into the warm embrace of the savior.

To us, Henry died too young. At age 59, he had so much more living to do. But some, in their few years, live more

Continued on next page



Remembering Henry Martin (continued from page 6)

and give more than others do when given decades longer to live.

Henry did not start out a saint. He was, after all, human. He went through some of the cultural struggles of his era. He and Deborah were immersed and married in the hippie culture and rediscovered their faith through the Jesus Movement.

But this is not a bio; this is a reminder of the man in our midst who kept us listening and hearing – not just



technically, but in body and in spirit. Henry's leanings showed up early. He told Kristin Searfoss, who interviewed him for her May 2007 Fly on the Wall column that he was interested in sound even as a teenager playing in a band. When he and his friends attended concerts, they would seek out the sound engineer afterwards, rather than the musicians.

Although Henry was on staff at St. B's as sound engineer, he started out about 10 years ago, joining a team of volunteers who kept the sound waves flowing.

His background in physics and his short courses in audio were great assets, but much of what he knew he learned by observing and by doing. He told Kristin, "In those short courses, I learned things like how to tell when feedback is about to happen, which is very important because a screeching sound system can be very painful. I also studied sound-system design."

In late 2005, a new console was purchased, which made Henry's job somewhat easier. Its archaic and temperamental predecessor was dubbed The Millennium Falcon by David Schober and church treasurer

Dan Cleary, who had both had to operate it for a period of time during Henry's absence.

In a sad twist, the new console was set up a week before the St. B's Family Christmas in 2005. It was

the day of the Family Christmas, this year, when Henry passed away. The texts flying back and forth had to do with setting up for the event.

The music team particularly admired Henry's dedication. Tom Howard, associate music director, reflected, "Those of us who had the privilege of working closely with Henry knew him to be a veritable mountain of grace, intelligence and integrity. This quiet, unassuming man brought his generous gifts to our community and blessed us all. He will be sorely missed."

Tom, and those intimately acquainted with the sensitivities of sound management knew well that the console was a small part of what Henry did. He had to set up the sound and electronics wherever events were taking place. Accordingly, the challenges varied drastically.

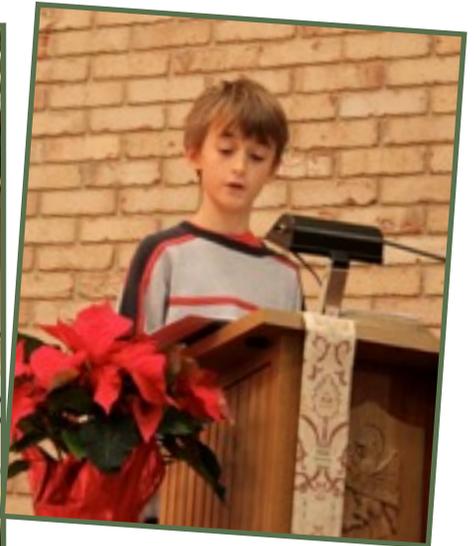
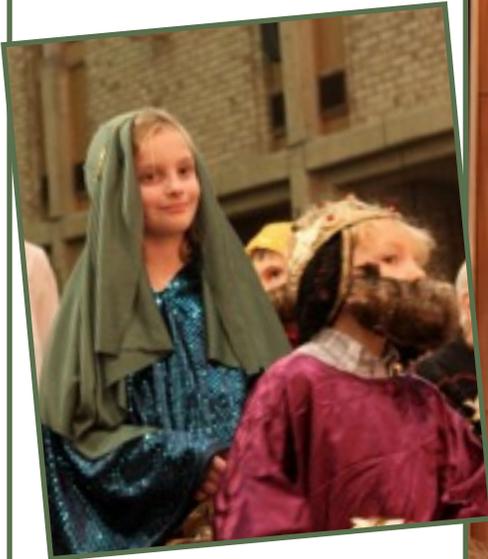
Kristin was intrigued by Henry when she watched him crawling under the sound equipment, which is parked in the back pews, on the right side. Henry, somehow, was always able to combine running the sound (which included jerry-rigging fatigued electronics) and full-bodied, arms-in-the-air praise and worship. He was one of a kind. When I read in the Book of Revelation about those in shining, white robes gathered around the throne praising God, I see Henry leading the pack. He was always first in line to praise God; last in line to seek praise for himself.

Perhaps that was why so many people found it easy to speak highly of him. His funeral was incredibly moving. One of the musicians participating was Amy Grant, who received help from Henry early in her music career, before the big hits. As that implies, Henry has done much more than do sound at St.

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The Christmas Pageant



Photos by Jon Zadick





Photos by Jon Zadick



FILM SCHOOL AT HOME - UP

The purpose of this column is to encourage our community to engage film with eyes and ears for dialogue. Today's popular movies may be our most common and accessible form of art in our culture; therefore we ought to wrestle with the ideas and content found within them. Our hope is that we can use them to learn about who we are and what kind of world we live in. In these conversations and contemplations there is formation. This column exists to move that formation into the way of Jesus.

Disney & Pixar's Up (2009)

Rated PG (for peril and action not recommended for children under 5)

Directed by Pete Doctor and Bob Peterson

Last summer Dixon and I took the youth to see this film. We thought this would be a wonderful opportunity to have some informal hang-out time with our teenagers and since it was a Pixar movie we thought we would be provided quality entertainment. Little did we know that we would all be heart warmed and sobbing throughout the entire movie. The movie opens up on a young boy, Carl, who dreams of adventures and traveling all over the world. Later, he meets a girl named Elle who shares the same dream and quickly, via a



montage, we watch as they get married and go through the perils and joys of their life together. However, life gets in the way and they never go on their big adventures. When Elle dies, we find Carl enshrining the house to her memory and wasting away as an old curmudgeon. Due to Carl losing his temper, the state decides he is a menace to society and forces him to live in a nursing home. However, before the nursing home staff can take him from his home,

Carl escapes by strapping ten thousand balloons to his house and flying away to Paradise Falls (a place he and Elle always dreamed of going). All is going according to plan until a young Boy Scout, Russell (who is trying to earn his "Assisting the Elderly" badge), gets stuck on the porch looking for a "snipe" that Carl sent him looking for. Together the two of them embark on an exciting odyssey full of beasts, rough terrain, and talking dogs. I highly recommend this film and guarantee you will not be disappointed.

Passages to Consider:

Act 1 – Genesis 2:15-25

Act 2 – Galatians 6:1-5

Act 3 – Matthew 16:21-26

Discussion

Spoiler Alert

Act 1

The beginning of this film opens with one of the most heartwarming montages in the history of film. Juxtaposed with the Genesis narrative we see why God says it's not good for people to be alone. Furthermore, the bible talks about the church being the bride of Christ, it is God's dream

Continued on next page



FILM SCHOOL AT HOME (continued from page 10)

that we love and be faithful to Christ. Our marriage to one another is a public expression or sacrament that tells the world we believe togetherness and covenant is truly the way to be in this world. Even in the face of imminent death as we saw with Elle, we live and love anyway.

What is so potent about Elle and Carl's relationship?

How does their relationship look like God's dream for our relationship with God?

How do you feel about the way Carl deals with the tragedy of losing his wife?

Act 2

As Carl and Russell begin to spend more time together we see Carl begin to change. Carl begins to listen to Russell's story and we see

Carl begin to empathize with rather than resent Russell. This empathy is created because of Carl and Russell developing intimacy throughout the film. Listening to other people's pain is difficult but a central part of our Christianity. Jesus was compassionate. Compassion means sharing in suffering. If we are to be in the way of Jesus then we are to help carry one another's burdens.

Have you ever shared something personal with someone?

Why does it feel so heavy, especially when you are connecting with somebody new?

Why is listening to other's pain so difficult?

How can we make ourselves more available to the suffering of others?

Act 3

In this part of the film we see a parallel character in Charles Munst. The difference between Munst and Carl is how they are willing to let go of their dreams and choose relationships. The most moving part of this act is when Carl reads through the "Adventure Book" and discovers that the best parts of his life were during the "boring times" (Remember what Russell was saying about what he remembers the most).

Talk about the differences between the choices that Munst and Carl make? How are they similar? How are they different?

Why does Carl come out a winner in the end? Why does Munst come out a loser?

Henry Martin (continued from page 7)

B's. He has done much more than work in technical services.

As Kristin wrote so well in her article, "Beyond the fact that Henry engineers the sound for the church and that he and Deborah have a big family, I knew they had important connections with Sudan. Before (his former employer) and St. B's, Henry and Deborah spent five years in Sudan working on linguistics and Bible translation from 1990-95."

They first went to southern Sudan in 1981 to do radio communications for Wycliffe Bible Translators. It was at this time they developed an interest in Bible translation. When they returned in 1990 with seven children, it was with the Wycliffe translation ministry. Their work in Sudan and Kenya included teaching Sudanese to do translation work. It was in Africa that their eighth child, Lindsay, was born and, sorrowfully, where they lost their second youngest, Stephanie, to pneumonia.

Although they faced many other challenges, including a change in focus at their sending church and ensuing withdrawal of support, they have continued to have a heart for the Sudanese and to be involved in translation work. They have been actively involved in the Sudanese ministry at St. B's.

As well as his wife Deborah, a marriage and family therapist, Henry leaves behind his adult children, Taylor, Allison, Joseph, Daniel, Kit, Jeffrey and Lindsay.



Off the Record: *Betty-Ashton on Harp*

St. Frances prayed, “Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.” Betty-Ashton Andrews echoes that prayer with each strum of her harp. Some of you can attest to this, if you attended the Family Christmas Concert. Much more than providing background music, Betty-Ashton believes her instrument can be used to minister healing, comfort, truth and beauty, as she tries to model these attributes in her life as well.

Betty-Ashton grew up in Roanoke, VA with five younger brothers, in more of an athletic family than a musical one. Her parents made each child take music lessons for at least a year; for Betty-Ashton it was the piano in kindergarten and harp at age nine. In high school, her ears perked up to groups like Dave Matthews, Counting Crows, and Jars of Clay. That’s when she first started to think, “I want to play my harp with bands like this.”

Her two recent CD’s, “Home” and “Rest” (available at the bookstore), showcase Betty-Ashton’s thoughtful approach and dexterity on her instrument, although the projects differ in content.

“Rest” highlights her interpretive side, as she beautifully makes her way through a collection of familiar hymns. This compilation was commissioned by Gentle Shepherd

Hospice in Virginia, as a CD they could give to their patients to provide familiar comfort. (Courtney Burgess, also from St. B’s, created the artwork.)

“Home” showcases Betty-Ashton’s contemplative side, featuring her own lyrical, meditative compositions. Many of these songs were written to be played in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at



OFF THE RECORD

by *Adam Wirdzek*

Vestry Member

What was it about the harp that initially attracted you?

The church where I grew up had a full orchestra that played every Sunday, and the church owned a harp. That’s where it first caught my



Vanderbilt. But Betty-Ashton saw there was more to these songs, which birthed the recording. She shares, “The more it evolved, the more I realized that each song I was writing plugged into a different emotion that is a part of our longing for the way God intended life to be.” Those are the words of a woman in touch with her calling to use her gifts to bless the world around her.

attention, but my parents thought I was too small to play. I remember visiting some family friends whose daughter was playing a little folk harp. I couldn’t keep my hands off it. The following Christmas, I received a lever harp and I started taking lessons. When I was in eighth grade my grandparents let me use the college savings fund they had for me to buy a pedal harp. That meant I

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Off the Record (continued from page 12)



was committed to using the harp to get a college scholarship. So, I'd say at about age 13 I was committed to doing something with the harp. My senior year of high school I did a project on harp therapy. I wasn't crazy about being an orchestral harpist, so I think that's what solidified this idea that there were other creative ways I could make being a harpist my vocation.

You're not just a player; you're also a composer. How did you discover and cultivate that gift?

The start of that came through playing with a church worship team. That's when I first started playing off of chord charts instead of sheet music. The first time I actually wrote a song was when my brother Britt was in the intensive care unit at UVA after being in a nearly fatal car accident. I took my harp with me to play for him in the hospital. As I was playing, some pretty awesome melodies came out. I was blown away. It was an absolutely transforming thing for me. All my life I'd felt like I'd earned my skills as a harpist. I could play well as long as I logged in the practice time. This was something that I didn't practice, or figure out on my own. I was just moving my fingers and I truly believe it was the Holy Spirit moving in me. Since then I've learned more about actually crafting a song, but more often than not, the melodies are something I don't feel like I control. It's become a way of worshiping God that is so different from

anything I've learned as a harpist.

How did you and Aaron come to St. B's?

The first time we visited St. B's Lisa Rhea was actually playing the harp. It was kind of nice to walk into a church and hear someone else playing the harp. The St. B's service was a great mix of the things each of us like, but what we really loved was the sense of community. After visiting only a few weeks we felt like people knew us enough to say they'd missed us if we hadn't seen them the week before.

5 Things Betty Ashton wants you to know about the harp:

1. The strings are color coded. Red strings are "C" and black strings are "F". The rest are clear.
2. The strings on a harp are much like the white keys on a piano
3. Concert harps have 7 pedals, one for each note. The pedals each have 3 positions: Sharp, Natural, and Flat. So, you can set the pedals for what key you're playing in. Anytime that changes you have to use your feet.
4. Harps come in many different sizes and finishes.
5. There is a very particular way of plucking the strings. You use the tips of your fingers and thumbs, but not your pinky fingers.

What are the connection points between your artistry and your life as a Jesus follower?

I grew up having a pretty works-based view of Christianity. I knew in my head that I was saved by grace, but subconsciously I was always trying to earn my salvation, and thought I was doing a pretty good job of it. I still struggle with that. I think it's cool that my favorite thing about being a harpist now is when I let go and can tell that it's the Holy Spirit moving my fingers. It's a reminder that just like I'm saved by grace and not by works, my best music is not a result of my years of training; it's a gift.

What are your biggest challenges to staying true to your vocation?

Probably the biggest challenge is to not get complacent with doing the same things. I'm finding it's been really life giving to create new challenges for myself. Lately I've begun doing speaking engagements and teaching master classes, and I love it. The speaking has mostly been sharing what I do as Musician in Residence at the hospital and the master classes I've been developing are on "Songwriting as a

Continued on page 15



Making Connections

At the ECW Advent Party



by Mary Schaefer
photos by Bev Mahan

The Book of Ruth is a story of loyalty and kindness between two women, of how the women value and learn from one another even though they are different ages and from different cultures. Bev Mahan, president of St. B's ECW used this beautiful scripture reference in her open invitation to all the women of the church to attend the annual ECW Advent Party. One of the visions the leadership team has for ECW is for all women of the parish to make the effort to be available to one another, to learn from one another, and to make meaningful connections.

The Advent Party was held on December 7th at Bev's home in Franklin, and the place overflowed with nearly 70 women of every age of life and stage of faith talking, laughing and sharing. Shuttle service was provided by Steven Lefebvre and Rocky

Arnold, which netted the Youth Ministry \$200! We enjoyed wonderful homemade goodies brought by the attendees, including Maggie Ward's dip made by Lynn Ferguson. We spent two hours in blessed fellowship, and God's spirit was pouring down on the group. I sensed the commitment, connections, and reconnections developing between the women. Thank you to all who worked on preparing the way for this gathering, and praise to God for His faithfulness in drawing people together in His name.



Presiding Bishop Visits the Chapmans at Trinity Dental Clinic

On Wednesday, January 6, Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori visited St. B's missionaries Keith and Kristin Chapman at Trinity Dental Clinic in Liberia.

Her visit was part of a weeklong stay in the country, at the invitation of the Episcopal Church of Liberia.

The visit is best described by Kristin in this email message following their visit.



"I know, we still can't believe it, either! And, if not for a toothache (not hers) this never would have happened!

We learned of The Most Reverend Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori's visit to Liberia from our priest at St. B's. A couple of weeks ago he wrote to us letting us know she would be here. We started contacting everyone we could find online to see if it would be possible to see her while she was here. Another missionary in Liberia sent us her schedule and we decided to attend the service she was doing at the cathedral downtown.

So, on Sunday we went and it was quite a service—all three hours of it! But, other than shaking her hand at the



peace (which about 500 other people did as well) we did not have a chance to introduce ourselves.

So, on Tuesday, Keith texted the man in charge of her schedule to see if she might be able to drop in at the clinic just for a few minutes on her way to another event. Within minutes of that text we received a YES! Here's the amazing part. Keith and I had been trying for weeks to get in touch with Bishop Hart, the bishop of Liberia (the man in the collar in the above picture). Bishop Hart was out of the office for two weeks and then was busy with the Presiding Bishop. We never were able

to meet with him. But, just before the Presiding Bishop's arrival he called because his brother was suffering with a severe toothache. Keith had seen his brother the morning he sent the text message about them coming for a visit.

According to the Presiding Bishop, it was Bishop Hart that insisted that they stop by and visit us. Who would have ever guessed! God does work in amazing ways!"

Editor's note: The Branch will run a full article about the visit in our next issue.

Off The Record (continued from page 13)

Means of Worship", "Keys to Being a Successful Freelance Musician", and "Improvising and Arranging for the Harp". One of the next challenges I have for myself is to write a devotional book to go along with my CD "Home".

What is the most rewarding gig you've ever played?

There's a group called The Compassionate Friends that is an organization for families who have lost children. For several years now, they have had me play while they read the names of children at their annual candle lighting service. I usually play the song I wrote for my brother and

am always so grateful that his name isn't among the list, when it very easily could have been. It's one of those times that I feel God's presence in my fingers and I pray that God will use the music to meet people in their suffering.



Epiphany Party & Chili Cook-off

This year's cook-off competition was a clean sweep by Andrew Thornton (right). Andrew's chili won in all three categories: Hottest, Best Original, and Best Overall. Steve Thorne (below) took the prize for best presentation.



Want to make the winning chili at home?
The recipe is below.

Andrew Thornton's Chili Verde

Prep Time: 45 minutes
Cook Time: 1.5 hours

- 2 - 2 1/2 pounds slow-roasted pork (recipe follows)
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 1 cup green chile sauce
- 1 6lb can tomatillos, drained and coarsely chopped
- 4 cups Mexican style hominy, drained
- 4 roasted Poblano chiles, seeded and diced
- 4 cloves of garlic, peeled and diced
- 1 medium red onion, peeled and diced
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cumin
- 2 tablespoons oil
- 2 cups drinking water

Follow the recipe for slow-roasted pork; after cooking and cooling, trim away all extra fat. Place the pork, chicken broth, chile sauce, tomatillos and all other ingredients into a 3gal stock pot. Bring to boil; simmer for 1.5 hours. Transfer to crock pot and serve as desired.

Chile Sauce recipe

- 1 1/2 lbs serrano chiles, roasted and skin removed

- 3 garlic cloves, peeled
- 1/2 teaspoon cumin
- 1 teaspoon salt
- juice of 1/2 lime
- 2 tablespoons oil
- 1 jalapeno, seeded (optional for spiciness)
- 2 cups drinking water

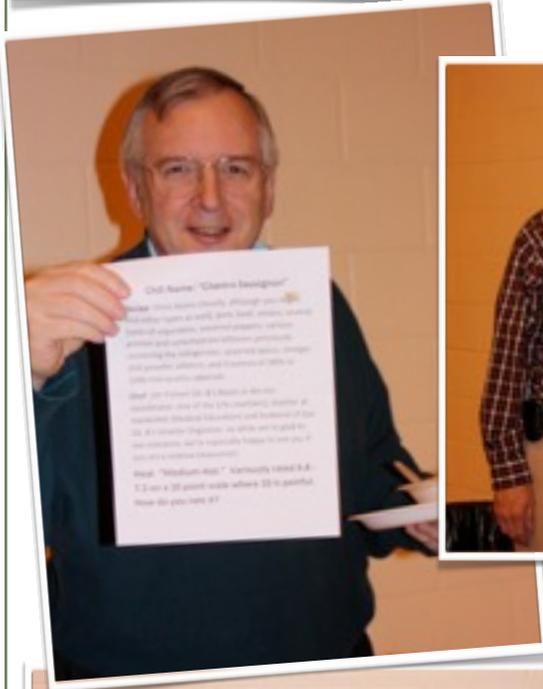
Blend chiles in food processor until chunky. Add in remaining ingredients and process until smooth.

Slow-roasted Pork

- 8lb Boston Butt pork roast
- 2 cups savory dry rub of choice
- 2 cups apple juice

Wash meat; pat dry. Thoroughly rub into all surfaces savory rub; place in roasting pan. Pour apple juice around roast; seal meat in roasting pan with 2-3 layers of tin foil. Place in 250° oven for 4-4.5 hours, testing readiness with meat thermometer. Serve for dinner. Of the 4 lbs you couldn't eat, pare away all excess fat. Shred as much as possible the pork meat, and cube the rest. Add liberally to chile verde.





Photos by Pam White & Erin Somerville

A Holiday Greeting from the Powells



Greetings from Germany to our dear St. B's family!

We certainly miss you all and are wishing you a very Happy New Year. We are in full swing here at Black Forest Academy in our second year of ministry. We praise God for the ways He blesses our family and our ministry to students. You are a big part of that blessing.

The ways in which you support us, pray for us and encourage us serve as a reminder and confirmation that God has called us (our family and our church) here to do a work in the unfolding of His kingdom here on earth. We continue to be very humbled by all the ways the Lord directs our community of faith to sustain us here. An encouraging email, an unexpected financial gift, a care package in the mail, visits from our pastor and friends and creative ministry partnerships are just a few ways in which St. B's has actively been involved in supporting the global missions effort here in Kandern, Germany. We truly feel like we are partners in ministry! St. B's is rare among churches in that respect. We live in a large community of missionaries and it is evident to us that not all serving here are as well supported and cared for as we are. We think it's important for you all to know how wonderful you are!

Thank you for all you do for us!

Many blessings,
Mark, Susan, Meredith, Evan and Ethan Powell



Bottom Right: St. B's parishioners, Robert and Lisa Rhea leading the Powell family in a Eucharistic service with sacraments from St. B's.

Right: Robert and Ethan enjoying a moment together.

Below: St. B's parishioner Charlie Lowell, speaking to BFA students in a video address encouraging them to participate in a fundraiser campaign for Blood:Water Mission. The student body recently purchased 4 bio sand filters for families in Zambia.



From Glory to Glory

The title "From Glory to Glory" comes from Paul's revelation into God's eternal destiny for each of his children. "And we...are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory."



Anniversaries

Ted & Georgeanna Goldthorpe	1/1
Dixon & Kristin Kinser	1/2
Charlie & Sonja Lowell	1/3
Tom & Dana Sherrard	1/8
Grant & Beth Lehman	1/8
Greg & Marilyn Droman	1/18
Dave & Nancy West	1/20

Birthdays

Melissa Trevathan	1/1
Deng Mourter	1/1
Nancy Cason	1/2
Peter Lamothe	1/2
Lyon Tyler	1/3
Dixon Kinser	1/4
Deborah Whiteside	1/5
Olivia Rae Poindexter	1/5

Richard Combs	1/8	Aja Baldwin	1/19
Katherine Bomboy	1/9	Davis Simpson	1/19
Lindsey McRae	1/9	David Logan	1/20
Donald Berschback	1/9	Joshua Daniel	1/20
Darcy North	1/10	Harrison Taylor	1/20
Mary Stone	1/11	Ava Lee Poindexter	1/22
Aleksandra Stone	1/13	Walter Lynch	1/22
Kendra Allen	1/15	Scott Kammerer	1/24
Dr. Jule West	1/16	Josh Hayden	1/25
Meg Halford	1/16	Wilder Allen	1/25
Ross Goodman	1/16	Bill Arthur	1/26
Derek Brown	1/16	Elinor Madeira	1/26
John Thornton	1/16	Bryan Rodgers	1/27
Charlie Christopher	1/17	Virginia Lamothe	1/27
Sherry Paige	1/17	Mitchell Flynn	1/27
Thomas Hall	1/17	Brian Langlinois	1/28
Traci Ruhland	1/17	Nathaniel Tylor	1/28
Elliot Swihart	1/17	Camden Smith	1/28
Zena Carruthers	1/18	Matt Smith	1/29
Robby Pullen	1/18	Allyson Edwards	1/30
Nick Ingham	1/18	Jonathan Miller	1/30
Elizabeth Willia	1/19	Anna Dinwiddie	1/31

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: MARCH 7, 2010 THE ANNUAL PARISH FAMILY MEETING



When: Sunday, March 7, 2010, 5:00pm

Where: The gym

Who: Everyone!

What: A chance to hear where we've been this last year and what's planned for the year ahead. This is an overview you will not want to miss. More details will be coming soon.

Why March? Why so late?: Beginning in 2010, our fiscal year runs from March 31 - April 1. Due to the change, we've adjusted the meeting date so our budget and other business reports are complete.



St. Bartholomew's Church
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THE BRANCH *Blog*

Hopefully by now you've visited the new StBs.net. It's loaded with new features, and best of all, it's updated daily. It's a great place to stay connected and informed about what's going on in our family.

What you might not have noticed is the new BRANCH blog. Or you may be wondering "How is the blog different from the printed *Branch*?"

With the introduction of the new website, the BRANCH blog will become a complement to the printed *Branch*. Some information will overlap, but both will contain original content. Whereas *The Branch* will likely cover stories in more depth, the BRANCH blog will carry more timely information, often updated daily, and allows for comments on the articles posted.

Be sure to add both our website and the BRANCH blog to your list of regularly visited sites.

