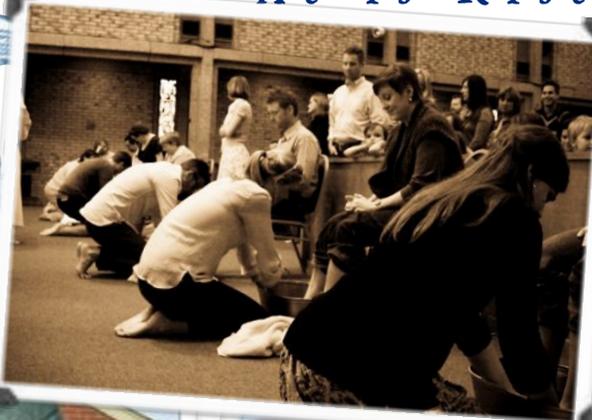


THE BRANCH

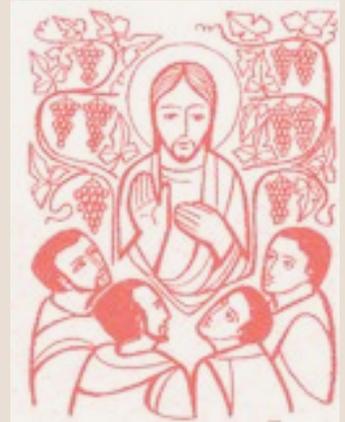
THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Open your eyes and see...
He is Risen



EASTER 2011

"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).

We are an Easter People

Glimpses of Holy Week: Maundy Thursday Foot Washing; the Stations of the Cross; children climbing St Bart; and the Easter Egg Hunt.



St. Bartholomew's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 Imitating Jesus Christ and Maturing in Him.

Staff

Clergy:

The Rev. Dr. Jerry Smith, *Rector*
 The Rev. Dixon Kinser, *Assistant Rector for Youth & Young Adult Formation*
 The Rev. David Wilson, *Pastoral Associate*
 The Rev. Ian Morgan Cron, *Liturgical Associate*

Office:

Pam White, *Director of Operations*
 Jane Long, *Office Manager*
 Annie Heyward, *Administrative Assistant*
 Teresa Robinson, *Childcare Coordinator*

Parish Ministry:

Carla Schober, *Director for Family & Children's Formation*
 Steve Lefebvre, *Assistant Director for Youth & College Formation*
 Sally Chambers, *Director of Communications*
 Bev Mahan, *Verger & Assistant to the Rector for Liturgy*
 Robert Smith, *Assistant to the Rector for Pastoral Care*
 Corinne Wilder, *Children's Formation Assistant*
 Shelby Hoggard, *Children's Formation Assistant*
 Gaylene Latham, *Nursery Coordinator*
 Elizabeth Madeira, *Elementary Coordinator*
 Brea Cox, *Preschool Coordinator*
 Shari Smyth, *Catechist Coordinator*

St. B's Bookstore:

Allison Hardwick, *Manager*

Preschool & Mother's Day Out:

Suzy Floyd, *Preschool Director*

Music:

Eric Wyse, *Director of Music*
 David Madeira, *Director, Chamber Singers*
 Teresa Robinson, *Administrative Assistant*

Vestry

Judson Abernathy, Carmen Hall, Matt Hardy, Vanessa Hardy, Dennis Holt, Ashley MacLachlan, Kay Morreale, Larissa Root, Rachel Sefton, Whitney Stone, Adam Wirdzek
 Dorman Burtch, *Sr Warden*; Trey Myatt, *Jr. Warden*;
 Dan Cleary, *Treasurer*; and Gary Mumme, *clerk*.

4800 Belmont Park Terrace
 Nashville, TN 37215
 phone: 615.377.4750
 email: churchoffice@stbs.net

INSIDE

| | |
|---|----|
| Kingdom Talk - Fr. Jerry Smith | 3 |
| Living Prayer - Al Andrews | 4 |
| Music Corner - David Madeira | 5 |
| Missional Life - Fr. Dixon Kinser | 6 |
| The Wonder of It All - Carla Schober | 7 |
| From the Mouth of Babes - Carmen Hall | 7 |
| To the Ends of the Earth - Susan Powell | 8 |
| Creation Care - Justin Cole | 9 |
| One - Marjie Smith | 10 |
| Walk This Way - Beverly Mahan | 11 |
| The Butcher's Block - Dorman Burtch | 13 |
| Women's Ministry - Sarah Bell Early | 14 |
| The Archbishop's Visit - Fr. Dixon Kinser | 15 |
| It's Not Just About Numbers - Trey Myatt | 16 |
| Neo-Monasticism - Steven LeFebvre | 17 |
| From Glory to Glory | 19 |

Dear St. B's Family,
 You are invited to a Open House on May 1st to celebrate, give thanks, and bless my house.

It has been just a year since many of you opened your hearts and helped with your time, food, money, and prayers to help me after the flood.

Just as a small token of my appreciation I wanted to open my home to any who may have helped so you can see the fruits of your labor and celebrate God's goodness. Father Jerry will be giving a house blessing. I look forward to seeing you on May 1st between 1:30-4pm. Drop in for a few minutes or for a while.

With much gratitude, Mavis Harrop
 River Plantation Section VI
 1097 Gen George Patton Rd
 Nashville, TN 37221



Sherry Paige and Diane Stannard also suffered significant losses in the flood last year. Sherry has moved to a home near to the church and Diane is back in her home with renovations still being finished.



A Resurrection People

History was significantly disrupted when Jesus broke the bonds of death and rose from the grave! As much as some prophetic utterances had foretold these events, the world was unprepared. That empty tomb mystified, frightened and challenged residents of the known world.

They were mystified because this was beyond the experience of the community. It defied reason and logic, not to mention science. Never had this happened to them. What were they to make of it? Was it real or was a charismatic shyster duping them?

The unknown frightened them! The unfamiliar always invites fear from people who have been living as if human knowledge and understanding can fathom most everything.

They were challenged because if indeed the resurrection were true, then their own lives would need to dramatically change. How could they acknowledge such an event and stay the same?

Have we changed?

I'm not convinced we have.

Most of us are equally mystified, frightened and challenged by the story of the resurrection Jesus as were those who heard the first rumors.

As much as we have been raised with the story and enjoyed the celebrations of the victory of Jesus, the events themselves defy our human comprehension. The ramifications of the enlightenment demand that we are able to get our minds around things in order to actually believe them, and this is tough for us. Like Thomas (the doubter), we want put our fingers in Jesus side, and in the nail prints in his hands. But even the thoughts of

that much evidence can be off putting.

We remain a people who are frightened by the apparent unknown and unexplainable. This probably has as much to do with our pride as anything else but nevertheless it is a deterrent to our allowing the event of God to impact our lives.

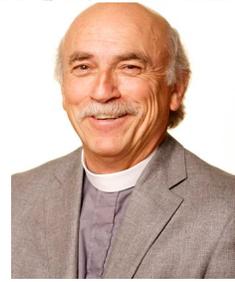
We are frightened because we instinctively know that if the story is true then it demands some response. There are only two possibilities. The resurrection demands a full out Yes or a wimpish No. There is no other option.

"Every Christian man or woman should from time to time frame for himself a RULE OF LIFE in accordance with the precepts of the Gospel and the faith and order of the Church; wherein he may consider the following:

- *The regularity of his attendance at public worship and especially at the Holy Communion. (Worship)*
- *The practice of private prayer, bible reading, and self-discipline. (Internal formation)*
- *Bringing the teaching and example of Christ into his everyday life. (External formation)*
- *The boldness of his spoken witness to his faith in Christ. (Evangelism)*
- *His personal service to the Church and the community. (Action)*
- *The offering of money according to his means for the support of the work of the Church at home and overseas."(Stewardship)*

Finally we are challenged to allow the impact of these events to have full power in our lives. After all the source of the resurrection said that the same power that raised Jesus from the grave can be at work in those who believe.

I am challenged to let go of control and allow the uncontrollable power of God to be released in my life.



KINGDOM TALK
by Fr. Jerry Smith

What will this mean? What might be expected of me?

As resurrection people, we have been encouraged to establish a Rule of Life to help guide us into this new paradigm, the place where we live no longer for ourselves but for him who died, and was raised.

A "rule" is not to be a legislative document but a reflective tool to assist us in our journey. I often refer to it as a tether to help keep us grounded in the things that are really important. For centuries Christians have used these as a means of focusing their growth in Christ and for a more disciplined approach to Kingdom-of-God-living.

As a person challenged by the resurrection of Jesus, its full impact will be realized only when I chose to cooperate with God by surrendering and trusting. My rule of life offers me some of the tools to assist in this.

I invite you to allow the resurrection full power in your life by being faithful to the one who was faithful to you... faithful to the point of dying. My own death to self is a small response.



Improbable Philanthropy

Why Should Bill Gates Have All the Fun?

A few years ago, a good friend of mine asked me, "So Al, what do you dream?" His question caught me off guard and I realized that I didn't have an answer for him. For several weeks, I thought about his question. For some reason, I began to remember my association over the years with good men and women who live and give generously and their impact on me (and the world). And soon, my dream began to come into focus. I called up my friend and said, "Are you ready to hear my dream?" He answered with an enthusiastic, "YES! So here it is:

THE DREAM: I dream of one day being a philanthropist. I envision having the financial resources to give generously (maybe even *lavishly*) to various non-profits who are making a difference in the world, providing them with resources to do something they need to do for the people they serve – a school, a clinic, a water system, farm animals, equipment, a church – you name it.

THE PROBLEM: Philanthropists are really rich. I am not. If you are at all acquainted with me, you know that this is a rather *improbable* dream. After all, philanthropists have money, and lots of it. And while I make a good living, "philanthropist" is not one of the

top 100 words that would be used to describe me. Therefore, I've decided to do something about it. (No, I'm *not* involved in a multi-level marketing scheme, nor am I going to sell you on some gospel of wealth strategy, which I think is a bunch of hooley!)

THE PLAN: In trying to come up with a legitimate plan to make enough money to get into the philanthropy category, I considered a number of options. Deciding against the lottery (bad odds) and a number of illegal activities (good odds, but jail time guaranteed), I came up with an idea.

The idea is this: write a children's book (one of those picture books), find a way to sell a boatload of them, and donate 100% of the net profits to charity, particularly those that impact children. (Eric Carle's "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" has sold 29 million copies – so there is



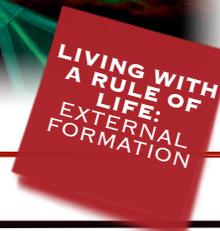
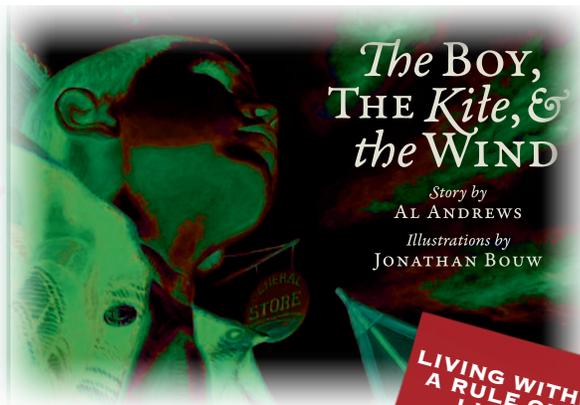
LIVING PRAYER
by Al Andrews

some precedence for children's books making lots of money!)

THE PROGRESS: I've written the book. It's called, "The Boy, the Kite, and the Wind." It's a book for kids, but the adults who read it get something out of it too. It's been fully illustrated by Jonathan Bouw, the head of the Visual Arts Department of Taylor University.

Presently, the first 5000 copies are being printing in China and are due to arrive sometime in June. Almost 400 books have already been pre-ordered from the website: www.theboythekiteandthewind.com. A great team of folks are helping me with a strategy to get this dream off the ground, and I'll keep my St. B's family informed of the progress. There's a long way to go before philanthropy becomes a reality, but I'm looking forward to the journey ahead.

Meanwhile, there are two conversations I'm interested in having with my community here. The first is about daring to dream some improbable dreams and putting some legs and feet on those dreams. The second is about what I call radical generosity, a generosity that reflects the abundance of grace that we've been given. Let the conversation begin.



Thumbs up to...

Danny Combs on winning the 2011 Grammy Enterprise Award
Tim Lauer on receiving Belmont University's Curtain Call Award

The beauty of ministry is that it can take on so many forms



Music Organically Grown

One major aspect of Eric Wyse's vision for worship at St. B's is to foster the creation of new works -- hymns, praise songs, choral anthems, Psalm settings, etc. -- for use in our services. Because of this, I was honored to be commissioned to compose a new choral anthem for the Chamber Singers to perform at the Diocesan Convention, hosted at St. B's this past January. As the theme of the convention was "I am the Vine, you are the Branches," I was given the text from John 15:5, 7 to set to music. Thanks to the willingness of the Chamber Singers to tackle challenging pieces in short periods of time, this piece enjoyed what I feel was a successful premiere at the Convention.

In creating the music, I divided the text into 3 parts, each having its own theme and musical idea. The first is Christ's statement about himself and the church: "I am the

Vine, you are the branches." To depict that statement musically, the theme is repeated over and over by multiple voices in close canon, the texture getting ever thicker, depicting a growing vine, branching out as the gospel message is heard. The second theme stems from Christ's two similar points in the text about the blessings we receive when we invite Him to be the Lord of our lives: "Those who abide in me bear much fruit (v.5) ... If you abide in me, and my words in you, you can ask what you will and it shall be done for you (7)." This statement is enhanced musically by echoing Christ's words throughout the multiple voices; some of the words are fragmented into parts and passed between voices and then layered as above, evoking a meditative contemplation of His words as we take them in and let them soak into our hearts.

THE MUSIC CORNER

by David Madeira

Assistant Director of Music



In between these themes, we have a warning in the text: "because apart from me you can do nothing." Musically this brief section contrasts from all the others in texture: all voices sing simultaneously rather than in interwoven layers, notes from outside the key area creep in, and thick cluster chords augment the word "nothing," which is repeated for emphasis.

I am very grateful for having had the opportunity to compose this work for the Convention, and I wish to thank the Diocese, Eric Wyse, and Fr. Jerry Smith for this commission. And of course, much gratitude is owed as always to the fabulous Chamber Singers, for their willingness to tackle challenging new works hot off the press and without much time to learn them!

The next St. B's writer's forum with Eric and David is June 12th, 6pm at the rectory. Come and take part in composing new liturgical music. For more information please email Eric Wyse at ewyse@stbs.net.



LIVING WITH A RULE OF LIFE: EXTERNAL FORMATION



An Easter Sermon: *I'll bet you didn't see that coming!*

Alleluia, He is Risen!
I'll bet you didn't see that coming!

There is an old saying, "Familiarity breeds contempt." However, in the life of the church familiarity does not so often breed contempt so much as *unfamiliarity*. What I mean is this: we can become so accustomed to our story that some of the simple details of its magnificence go right over our heads. Jesus' resurrection is no exception.

Most Christians know that Easter is the day we celebrate Jesus' rising from the grave. Some can connect the dots to explain how his risen body was the first marker of God's new creation bursting forth into our old one. Some can explain the way Jesus' cross and bodily resurrection are the turning points of human history. Still others can explain the way his "Christ pattern" of death and new life is written into the fabric of the Creation itself. However, sometimes it's the mundane details of the resurrection that say the most and yet we miss them. Familiarity breeds unfamiliarity and we forget to notice that *resurrection overturns the way the world is supposed to work*.

Think about it.

In our experience of life in this world there are certain things that we can count on. One of them, sadly, is that everything dies and people that die don't come back to life. Somewhere, somehow nothing lives forever. This is precisely where resurrection pulls the rug right out from under our expectations. Yes, Jesus died. And yes you know that dead things stay dead and don't come back to life. But guess what?! The tomb is empty! As the angel says to the women in the garden "He isn't here!" I'll bet you didn't see that coming, did ya?!



A MISSIONAL LIFE

by Fr. Dixon Kinser

Assistant Rector for Youth & Young Adult Formation

And that is the point. The resurrection upsets our most basic assumptions about how the world works. We know that everything dies right? Well, yes – but actually – umm, maybe more like yes and no. Resurrection has changed everything. Do you think there are other places you make assumptions about the way the world works that God wants to upset with resurrection?

Is there a pattern of dysfunction and abuse that you've just grown to accept? Is there a family dynamic that just never seems to change? Is there a system of injustice that you've given up caring about? Are there attitudes of cynicism that's you've stopped resisting? Are there job expectations that are killing you and you've given up trying to change them? Are there compulsive behaviors or addictions you think you just live with? Will things always be a certain way and never change?

Jesus' resurrection says no!

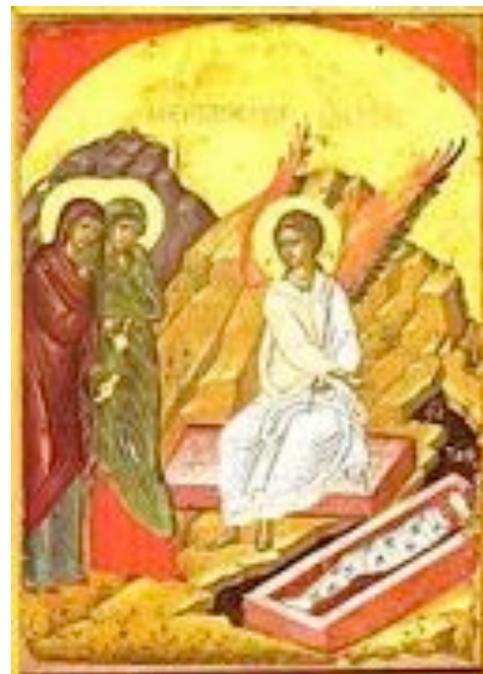
Resurrection proclaims that there are endless new possibilities and hopes. Death is not the end of the story. The old way the world works is no longer the true reality - resurrection is! Because He is alive, the tomb is empty and He isn't here! I'll bet you didn't see that coming, did ya?!

This Easter, will you be open to that which you don't see coming? Can you trade the despair of the way-it's-always-going-to-be for the hope way it is now and ever more shall be? Will

you open your heart to a God that majors in the surprising, unexpected, upsetting, world-changing power of resurrection? I wonder what surprises await you if you do?

Alleluia, He is Risen! I'll bet you didn't see that coming!

DDK+



A Reflection of God's Love

How many of us look at our reflection in a mirror and see only our flaws? Why is it so easy to believe the world's view of who we are and forget that God sees us through His grace and love?

In Children's Formation we believe it's very important to communicate the truth of who we are in Christ as early in life as possible. Mary Ann and Earl Raley, co-teachers, have some great examples of how they teach their two and three year old class to see themselves as Jesus would see them. What they teach is something any age can appreciate.

Mary Ann explains,
"Each week we use a hand mirror to show each child their reflection, while we speak a 'truth' about how God sees them. We begin by reminding the children, 'Jesus cares for us.' We then take the hand mirror around the table, show each child their reflection and tell them, 'Jesus cares for Claire,' 'Jesus cares for Jim,' 'Jesus cares for Margaret,' etc. We believe the truest thing about



THE WONDER OF IT ALL

by *Carla Schober*

Director of Family & Children's Formation

each of us is what God thinks of us... not what others think, or even what we think of ourselves."

So what happens to a child at this young age struggling with parent separation or shyness?

Mary Ann adds, *"Sometimes a shy child will avert their eyes from looking at themselves when we hold the mirror, so we encourage their parents to practice this technique with them at home. It is our prayer that these truths will be planted deep into their own self-concept from a young age!"*

What an amazing gift it is for any of us to understand the truth and healing power of Jesus love? How many of us still don't quite understand or believe this truth can apply to our own hearts? I encourage you today, be like a little child, look at your reflection and ask Jesus to open your eyes to His love and grace for you.

Our Sunday Children's Formation volunteers are taking a well-deserved break this summer.

Would you be willing to fill in for any of them?

Obligations:

4-6 Sundays of your choosing in June, July or August
Choice of 8:30 or 10:30 service

Ages: Nursery, preschool (8:30 only)

or elementary
Nursery, preschool & elementary (10:30)

Please sign up in the Narthex on Sunday or contact
Carla Schober, at
carlaschob@gmail.com

Turning Water into Wine

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES

by *Carmen Hall*

A quiet Sunday afternoon turned not so quiet when Avian (6) announced that they had seen water turned into wine during Sunday School. Kyrie (8) interjected that couldn't be possible---it had to be grape juice not wine! Avian insisted passionately that it was WINE, while Kyrie was committed to her grape juice position. Admittedly, I appreciated her logic that an adult Sunday School teacher surely would not serve cups of wine to

kindergarten children - but then again, I remembered, the teacher was Mr. Jim Pichert known for such exploits as escorting fellow teachers and kids to the slime pit and devious, smiling directives of "Don't lick the cactus!"

Mr. Jim already has a devoted following among the children of St B's. So what's Mr. Jim's secret? I can't say for sure. Maybe it's not a secret and it's right there in the open. Jim, like so many of Children's Ministry servants, treats

children like human beings, souls *with names* on their own spiritual journey. A good three years after completing the Garth's four year old Sunday School class, I regularly hear Bob Garth's booming voice on a Sunday morning greeting my daughter, "Good morning, Kyrie!" Bob, Jim, and so many at St B's embrace Jesus' way of seeing the children not as nuisances, as initially the disciples did, but as the most important. The Kingdom of

Continued on page 15



Hope in the Midst of Uncertainty

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH. by Susan Powell, fivepowells@gmail.com

LIVING
WITH A
RULE OF
LIFE:
ACTION

As many of you may know, on March 21st our confidence, our safety, our very foundations were rocked by the sudden and very unexpected death of Mark's 48-year-old brother, Jonathan. On the evening prior to his death, Jonathan went to bed early because he was, in his words, very tired. He awoke Cindy (his wife) shortly before midnight and in an instant he was gone despite her best efforts to revive him. Though no autopsy was performed, a heart attack is what doctors believe to be the cause of his death. In our human minds, his death makes no sense. Except for elevated cholesterol, Jonathan was quite healthy – an avid cyclist who just the day before had completed a 75 mile ride. When we got the word, Mark and I were completely stunned and in disbelief and in that moment, the story that God is writing in our lives changed forever. On *most days*, I truly believe the story is good though, despite all the pain and uncertainty.

God worked in miraculous and redemptive ways to get us all home to be with family during this difficult time. Originally, only Mark was going to travel home for the funeral, but a friend who had lost her husband unexpectedly to a heart attack (two years before to the day!) was adamant that we all should be there and insisted on

paying for the rest of the family's flights. We couldn't believe it! How could someone feel so strongly about something knowing that it would cost her thousands of dollars? In so doing, I truly believe that God redeemed some of the pain that she has experienced over the past two years. In that very generous act, she taught us about the hope we have in Christ's resurrection. Our friend taught us that despite the pain and suffering we experience in life, Jesus, and the hope He brings, is always at the end of our stories.

Little did we know though that more pain and uncertainty was just around the corner. While we were home, Mark and I went out to run errands and Mark decided to check his blood pressure in one of those cuff machines frequently found in stores. It was high – too high. We called our family doctor only to find out he was on vacation. Panic set in. Sudden and unexpected death does that to you, I am learning. I thought that if this could happen to Jonathan it could happen to Mark. Adding to that stress is the fact that both Mark's grandfather and great uncle died young of heart attacks and Mark's mom has heart disease. We called upon our dear friend and St. B's parishioner Robert Rhea for help. Robert immediately went into action getting us worked in to see a cardiologist friend of his. After several tests, Mark was diagnosed with both high blood pressure and high cholesterol and two medications were prescribed. End of the story? Not quite.



In the month that has followed Jonathan's death and the realization of Mark's health issues, we have had some deep conversations about life, shed quite a few tears and reevaluated what it means to live in the hope of Christ. As I said earlier, *most days* I know without a doubt that the story God is writing in our lives is good - very good. I believe that no matter what comes our way we are part of a new creation and that we have the hope of a future and the promise of ultimate healing. I believe that "the Holy Spirit uses the pain of shattered dreams to help us discover our desire for God, to help us begin dreaming the highest dream." (Larry Crabb) On good days, I have a renewed urgency to do more, be more and

Continued on page 18

The Powell's are one of St B's missionary families. They reside in Germany and minister through the Black Forest Academy. For more information on the adventures of the Powell's, check out ...

fivepowells.blogspot.com
www.bfacademy.com

We are not necessarily doubting that God will do the best for us; we are wondering how painful the best will turn out to be.

-C.S. Lewis



Introducing: St. B's Garden Market

LIVING WITH A
RULE OF LIFE:
STEWARDSHIP

This summer the Creation Care Crew will be organizing several "Garden Markets" in July and August (think 'farmers market', except the farm is your backyard garden!). Here are the basics:

- All are invited to participate by donating a portion of their harvest to the market.
- All are invited to buy from the market. They will be held on Sundays, in harmony with service times. Convenient, right?
- Proceeds from market sales will be split between local organizations working to bring healthy, fresh food to those who need it, and a fund for future CCC projects.

We will accept any fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs as long as they were grown in your yard. Fresh cut flowers and canned or preserved foods will also be accepted (again, as long as the main ingredients are from your yard). Keep in mind: No amount is too little to donate, so even if you just have a small patio garden with only a few extra tomatoes, you can still participate. The result will be a market with a wide variety of produce

and flowers from gardens all across Nashville. For those without gardens, it will be a convenient source for good local food and flowers, and there's nothing stopping a grower from being a buyer, too. You could even think of this as a crop swap for charity!

If you're an ambitious gardener you may want to think about planting extra this spring with the intention of donating your surplus as a tithe. On weeks without a market you can share the abundance with neighbors. Perhaps you've never gardened before but would like to try it out. We'd love to create a network of support where more experienced and knowledgeable gardeners can help out the newbies, so just let us know. We're also inviting all gardeners to send pictures of their gardens throughout the growing season. We'll post these so all can see the fantastic gardening that is already happening in our congregation.

As I write this, I'm looking at my containers of seed starts, almost ready to be transplanted. There aren't quite as many healthy plants as I had hoped for two months ago, but that's how it goes; gardening



CREATION CARE CREW
by Justin Cole

tends to challenge our desire for control. The garden is often a classroom for spiritual lessons in patience, humility, wonder, and faith. In a time when we are always a short drive from a grocery store stocked with every food product imaginable we tend to forget that all that we have, we have through God's provision. God has blessed us with a truly magnificent creation that sustains us. Starting a garden is one way to more fully appreciate that truth. It is through that appreciation, that we are able to live generously, sharing God's abundant blessings with others.

Most gracious God, may we continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation throughout this growing season.

If you'd like to be involved or share your garden photos send an e-mail to creationcare@stbs.net

CREATION CARE TIPS

Items that should be composted:

grains, vegetables, fruits
coffee grounds, tea leaves
egg shells
hair, dryer lint
leaves, grass, straw, hay
weeds that aren't aggressive & don't have seed heads
soil, cow manure

Items that should NOT be composted:

meat, grease, bones, dairy products
branches, wood chunks
ashes, lime
dog, cat, or human feces



Items that should be recycled:

aluminum and tin cans
cardboard
paper (including soft-cover books and magazines)
plastics with recycling symbols
Styrofoam with recycling symbols
glass (keep separated from other items)

Items that CANNOT be recycled:

cardboard or paper that's contaminated by food
cardboard or paper that's waxed
plastic-laminated paper
plastics or Styrofoam without recycling symbols
most lids on plastic and glass bottles
mirrors, windows, glass tableware, ceramics



Items for the hazardous waste center:

cooking grease
bleach, detergent, other cleaners
fluorescent tubes, CFL light bulbs
batteries
computers, monitors, printers
tires, motor oil, gasoline, antifreeze
brake, transmission, & windshield wiper fluids
stain, paint, paint thinner, pain stripper
rat poison, pesticides, repellants, weed killer
pet spray, pet dip, flea collars





ONE
by Marjie Smith
msscribber@comcast.net

One Living Stone.

If you ask a child to draw a living stone, you will probably get a picture of a rock with arms and legs. Maybe it would be the kind of rock our oldest son Nathan had in mind when he was about four and announced knowledgeably to his older sister as we drove by a cemetery, “Adrienne, when you die, they put you in the ground and put a rock on your head.”

But I’m not a child and I know that rock on the head carries a message; it has purpose. And I know that I have purpose. I have been called to be one living stone – one living stone in a massive spiritual structure; one little life set here to make a difference in God’s kingdom.

As a participant and observer in the chain of humanity, I can only relate the concept of a lifetime spent being formed into one spiritual cement block, so to speak, by telling stories. These stories tell us how we connect to each other, block to block, end to end.

In Bermuda, islanders and tourists alike spend a great deal of time shuttling by bus around this small, densely-populated island of approximately 60,000 residents. Interaction is not only unavoidable, but it is foreign to these friendly people who are so familiar with each other.

On one particular day, we were traveling between Hamilton and St. George’s when a man got on and took a seat not far from the bus driver. He called out to the driver,

whom he recognized,
“You played football.”

“Yes,” came the gentle response.

“They called you ‘the cat,’” the fellow added.

“That was my father,” the bus driver acknowledged.

“What did they call you,” came the query.

“Back Up,” said the driver. I didn’t

And I know that I have purpose. I have been called to be one living stone – one living stone in a massive spiritual structure; one little life set here to make a difference in God’s kingdom.

LIVING WITH
A RULE OF
LIFE:
INTERNAL
FORMATION

know whether he was joking or whether that was truly what he was called, coming in his father’s wake.

The passenger then asked who another player of the same last name was. The driver responded that it was his brother’s son.

“I come from a football family,” he stated matter-of-factly.

“Yes, I know,” said the man, going on to ask if he played music as well (obviously, also a family trait).

“I play the radio,” came the wry response.

Somehow, the simple phrase, “Yes, I know,” stuck with me, resonant in its soft Bermudian accent. I wondered how many people in our church community could verify so confidently who we assert that we are. I could tell people I come from a football family; I could embellish or downplay it. But the only way people really know whether it is true is by watching my family interact with a football down through the generations. That’s how they “know” about me. It is easy, in a bigger church, to hide from that level of intimacy, but it impoverishes the whole community when we live and give only at surface level.

About 12 years ago, I had a chain of experiences that clearly indicated how living stones do not sit on top of each other holding up spiritual windows and framing doorways. They interact; they move against each other.

The details are diminished but the day started with a member of the parish telling me how she’d had a dream and God had given her four specific things she needed to do or know. She had written them down. The next day in church – she wasn’t initially supposed to be there, probably because of work – a friend of ours, the Rev. Judy Paulsen, had been the guest preacher. Her sermon was based on those same exact points. It blew this woman away; and it blew me away in turn, for she wasn’t the type to fabricate things.

On that same day, another member of the parish had

Continued on page 12



Liturgy: *How We Do What We Do?*

LIVING WITH
A RULE OF
LIFE:
WORSHIP

WALK THIS WAY

by Beverly
Mahan

Verger



From my vantage point in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings, I see the handiwork of the many saints of St. B's. There are multiple moving parts to a service of Holy Eucharist, and the process of putting them together so we all can celebrate the Word and Sacrament begins more than a week before. It is obvious to most that the preacher has studied the scriptures and prepared a sermon, and the music ministers have made deliberate and thoughtful selections, as well as rehearsed the instruments and voices, and



Pam MacArthur, Sharon Smith, Katherine Thorton, Robert Smith, Marshall Weems, and Bev Mahan at Christ Cathedral for the Lay Ministry Celebration

often even written pieces for worship. We can see that ushers, greeters, lectors, prayers, acolytes, and chalice bearers are in attendance and going about their assigned tasks. Every Sunday service has an altar team captain who assigns duties and mentors new team members. The captains are Harry Xanthopolous, Jerry Minshall, Gary Mumme, Lee Ann Freeman, Marshall Weems, Robert Smith, Robert Rhea, and Pam MacArthur.

But there are a great many others whose contributions, though unseen

on Sunday, help make the worship services possible. Susan Houston sends a rough draft of the bulletin to a list of people, typically on a Saturday eight days before the service. Thus begins the back and forth of input and edits that results in the tool we use every week to follow the liturgy, meditate on the appointed scriptures, pray assigned prayers, pray for the right people, and worship together in song. Steve Lefebvre writes the opening meditation found in the bulletin. The flower team goes to market, selects and arranges flowers and places them in the church. The altar guild, headed by Thorunn McCoy, polishes the precious metals, cleans and presses the linens, and prepares the sanctuary for communion. The head chalice bearer, Tom Mahan, schedules and trains chalice bearers. Robert Rhea, acolyte master, does the same with the acolytes, Beth Ramsey leads the readers, and Phyllis Xanthopolous and Joan Hutchinson coordinate the prayer stations. Tim Villager and Tom Hutchinson oversee the ushers, and often serve as well.

Sue Pichert chairs the greeters. After the services, vestry members prepare the collections for deposit and see that the church is locked up. And this list doesn't include the children and youth ministries going on in the other building.

By my count, there are about 30 people actively involved in making each Sunday worship service happen. The next week, much of the cast changes, and again the following week, until in total there are easily 300 folks involved in leading the liturgy: 300 living stones doing the work of the people. This is

impressive to me, a sign of a healthy congregation. I don't have any data from any other churches to make comparisons, but I am sure many clergy would respect this level of participation in lay ministry.

There was a landmark study conducted decades ago called "Big School Small School." Among other things, it found that large, comprehensive schools with a whole host of clubs and teams have fewer student participants than small schools with fewer offerings. In the larger schools, the same small subgroup of students take part in all the activities and fill all the leadership roles. The greater number of opportunities do not draw in a greater number of students. At the small schools, there is a sense of "all hands on deck." All students are needed to make even a limited number of extracurricular activities viable. There are actually more

opportunities for



student involvement and

Continued on page 12



One Living Stone *continued from pg. 10*

interacted with a customer in the thrift store where she worked. Again, it was a very specific interaction that she had shared with me. Later in the day, I was taking our golden retriever, a trained therapy dog, to visit a young woman who had lost the use of her limbs in an auto accident. She loved Sheba and looked forward to these visits. As we chatted, her hired caregiver related the story of how someone had helped her. The hair stood up on my neck: she was the woman at the thrift store. In a city of over 60,000 people (and a catchment area of

200,000), God had brought us together to confirm her experience.

These encounters were of such exactness and timing that I could not doubt their authenticity. I believe I was called simply to be a witness. And so, I tell you these stories as deliberately as I would skip a stone across water to watch it skim the waves and send out ripples. These are the stories of living stones and those ripples will reach the feet of someone that needs their touch.

Liturgy *continued from pg. 11*

responsibility, because small schools are understaffed. Large schools are essentially overstaffed, and many students do not feel needed.

These same tendencies can be found in churches. Mega churches can be characterized by the number of attendees that get lost in the crowd, by people who attend but don't participate. Research suggests what we know from our own experience: one predictor of church satisfaction is the number of opportunities available to participate in ministry. When we can find ways to serve that match our skills and passions, we grow in our faith and relationship with the Lord.

Compared to all churches, St. B's could be considered a medium or large church. Compared with other Episcopal churches, we are larger than the average. We serve communion to 450-500 people on most Sundays. If 300 of those already are serving the body in some capacity, that leaves 200 that aren't. What does that mean? Are we short 200 opportunities to serve? Does our community send a message of "We are overstaffed," or "All hands

on deck"? Have you invited someone to join you in your chosen ministry? If you are someone who hasn't yet found your niche, expect the Holy Spirit to nudge you. This body of believers needs you. Liturgy is the work of all the people. Worship is an act, not an experience. We are not spectators watching performers. We are Easter people, acting together, each with our appointed part to play.



A Note from Robert Smith
Associate to the Rector
for Pastoral Care

Do You Know?

Have you ever wondered, "Who are the ones in service to our country that we pray for Sunday morning?" Have you ever thought, "Maybe I can do something for those that do so much for us?" We want to make that possible! We want to mount a map showing where these people are. We would like a picture, if possible, of them. And, most importantly, we want contact information for them.

Why? We want to surround the map with their picture, with their contact info underneath, connecting this via colored yarn to where they are stationed. Then, if desired, one can send them a card or a letter or a package of toiletries, etc. Here is the list of those we pray for.

Help us help them! We need to know who they are and how they can be contacted! Just let me know at 615-406-3152 or pastoralcare@stbs.com.

A Note from Kyrie Hall (8yrs)

Recently, I have seen children playing in the mulch in the garden in front of the church. I know they have no intention of harming the plants, but the mulch needs to stay where it is. It is a garden, not a sandbox. Please ask your children to not play in the mulch at all. Thank you!



A Church "Rewarmed"

THE BUTCH-ER'S BLOCK

by Dorman "Butch" Burtch

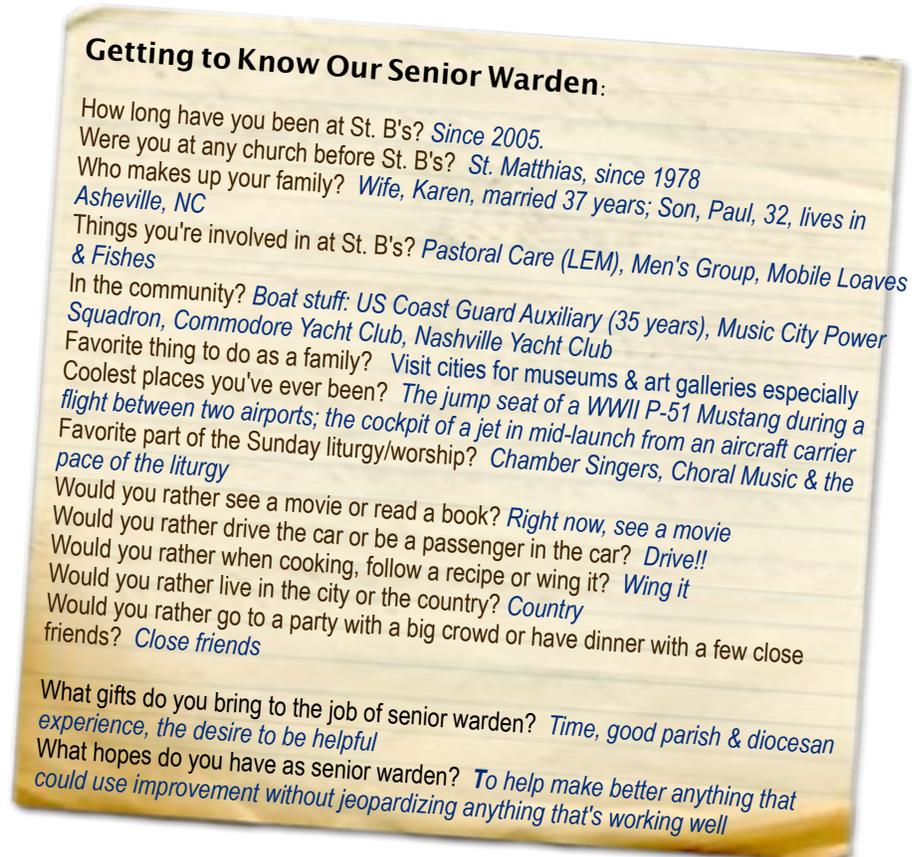
Senior Warden



I don't know about you, but by the end of Lent I always seem to have fallen short of my own hopes and expectations. For this Lenten season, our clergy presented us with a pretty engaging challenge, including week by week instructions and goals for focus on our personal Christian formation. For the most part, as a congregation and in comparison to many other churches I've known, I think we at St. Bartholomew's do Lent, do "church" pretty well: we worship, we pray, we're involved in the community and we financially support this church. Where I need improvement is Step 3, bringing Christ more and more into my life, and especially Step 4, being bolder in my spoken witness—actually having a coherent spoken witness.

Arch-Bishop Carnley did a great job of laying out the causes and real effects of our society's growing emphases on separation of church and state, secularism, individualism and political correctness. In a sense, this society has fostered the creation of little no-fly-zones around ourselves, barriers to communication and suggestion: we are taught to mind our own business. I sense these zones while sitting in "our" pew on Sundays—except for those moments when the barriers are forced down as we pass the peace.

I'm embarrassed to confess that I don't know the names of several of the people in our quadrant of the sanctuary, that I haven't always approached an unfamiliar face with a gesture of welcome, and that, even as a member of the vestry, I have stopped by only two of the Newcomers' gatherings on the second Sunday of the month.



As I was thinking about our call to become Easter People, Resurrection People, I pulled out my trusty 1962 edition of *Roget's Thesaurus* and chuckled when I saw that one synonym for resurrect was "rewarm." Of course, to be re-warmed, we have to have been warm in the first place.

One of the lessons of life is the realization that inertia and momentum are as much forces of psychology as they are of physics. Whatever I got started during Lent, this Easter season I intend to keep going, becoming even more deliberate about retiring my own no-fly-zone, getting to know as many as possible in our corner of the church, seeking out and welcoming any unfamiliar face, and becoming warmer, more welcoming and inviting.

In this continuing effort, I ask you to join me in fulfilling our Commission to treat others as we would want to be treated, so that when that day comes we may all be rewarmed.

Our Senior Warden's Prayer for St. B's:

That we would embrace the current vision and continue to grow--member by member--in love and in service to God, each other and the community. And that we be a welcoming church.

LIVING WITH A RULE OF LIFE: EXTERNAL FORMATION



Waste Nothing.

by Sarah Bell Early

For pics from the retreat, see the bulletin board in the entrance way. For more info on st. b's ecw, please email stbsecw@yahoo.com

st. bartholomew's

ecw
episcopal church women

LIVING WITH A RULE OF LIFE: INTERNAL FORMATION

Braving Friday rush hour traffic, child-care issues, and scheduling conflicts, over 90 women journeyed to the stunning natural beauty of St. Mary's Retreat Center at Sewanee, TN, in anticipation of developing deeper relationships with one another and Christ, relaxing into a 24-hour "time-out" from everyday busyness, and gaining wisdom from guest speaker Kathy Keller.

Kathy, with her husband Tim Keller, works and ministers at Redeemer Presbyterian Church in NYC. Kathy spoke on "Joy and Sorrow in the Christian Life." To find, like St. Paul, contentment whatever our circumstances, she encouraged us to:

1. **DON'T WASTE SORROWS**

Knowing that each life will surely meet with sorrows, we can be spiritually prepared for them by knowing Jesus now. Says Kathy, "you can't whip up a relationship with Jesus when the crisis arrives."

2. **DON'T WASTE JOYS**

Kathy quoted, "sometimes the biggest test is when there is no test." It is easy to be complacent during times of joy and take them for granted. We can also make an idol out of a joy so that our contentment lies in it, not in Jesus, and is destroyed if the joy is removed. But times of joy are opportunities to be refreshed, to actively deepen our relationship with Jesus, and to share with others God's work in our lives.

3. **LEARN TO BE CONTENT**

This requires practice, practice, practice. We can learn to trust God, know him and his heart through

studying his word. Our prayers, whatever our circumstances, should, like Christ's in the Garden of Gethsemane, strike a balance between the honest, unedited pouring out of our hearts, ("let this cup pass from me") and the sincere desire for God's will to prevail ("nevertheless, thy will be done").

Contentment is, therefore, a matter of stewardship: taking, with thanks and trust, whatever God places in our lives, and using it for his glory. Whether we are in the midst of sorrows or joys, Kathy ended, may Jesus find us about his business when he comes.

In the midst of our learning time, we were also blessed by shared testimonies from several women whose lives illustrated the bounty of God's blessings in times of great sufferings.

A special thanks must be offered to the retreat planning committee, who provided the sacred space (both literal and figurative!) for us to rest and renew, as well as our guest speaker, Kathy, and the lovely kitchen staff at St. Mary's, who blessed us with their culinary talents (and 24 hours of no cooking or cleanup duty!).

Join the ECW in Serving the Nashville Community

We invite you to join the ECW this year on a journey to serve the Lord through helping others. Come share the gifts God has given you to minister to our brothers and sisters in Nashville and help transform lives. As John 13:34-35 (NIV) states: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

The ECW have chosen to partner with St. Luke's Community House and Magdalene/Thistle Farms on various levels throughout the year. We hope by significantly investing in just two organizations that we will foster deeper relationships with those we serve and develop more meaningful experiences for all. We will be organizing several group projects and also hope to connect women to individual opportunities of service.

The first group project will be organizing and implementing the Graduation Luncheon for the women of Magdalene and their families, Friday May 27, from 11a.m.-1p.m. We need volunteers to help with refreshments, decorations and other preparations prior to the event and help the day of the event with set up and clean up.

For more information on service opportunities, check out our page on the website at <http://www.stbs.net/connect/women/>, or contact Brooke Schroeder at brookeschroeder@gmail.com.

LIVING WITH A RULE OF LIFE: ACTION



Archbishop Carnley was here. *Why You Should Care*

A Summary and Reflection by Fr. Dixon.

At the beginning of April St. Bartholomew's welcomed Archbishop Peter Carnley. Carnley is not only the former Primate of Australia (the quasi-equivalent of our Presiding Bishop in the United States) and visiting professor of systematic theology at the General Theological Seminary but he is also the Archbishop of Canterbury's pastoral representative in the United States as well as Aaron Smith's (Jerry's son) thesis advisor! Carnley has served on numerous committees for the Anglican Communion and was one of the authors of the Windsor Report. Can you think of anyone better suited to comment

on the future of the Anglican Communion and answer questions about the proposed Anglican Covenant? Neither could Jerry, which is why he asked Peter to come to the Diocese of Tennessee and address these very topics.

The Archbishop spoke to both Diocesan clergy and parishioners at St. B's about the need and place for the proposed Anglican Covenant. He built on the Churches call to image God who is himself community (the Trinity is Father, Son and Holy Spirit). For Carnley, the only faithful response to this divine attribute is unity. When churches divide over

conflict, says the Archbishop, it is a disaffiliation with Biblical Christianity and is no less than apostasy.

Strong words indeed.

Continued on page 18



Turning Water into Wine *continued from pg. 7*

God, He said, belongs to such as these.

Kids are welcomed by many into our church life as a whole, not just the Sunday School hour. Avian particularly enjoys attending the St. B's men's softball practice. Recently, he was telling me how one of the players hit the ball way out into the St. B's field, hitting on the head a little neighborhood girl who was chasing after her dog. Avian was trying desperately to tell me who the player was, but couldn't remember his name. Finally, he said, "It's the one who likes me all the time."

When we first arrived with our kids at St B's three and a half years ago, I immediately went to Carla Schober, Children's Ministry Director, with the not so fun list of diagnoses and idiosyncracies. We can only thrive and serve in a church if our whole family can attend—could they handle us all? I still cry when I tell people what

Carla said, "We welcome the challenge."

I cry because those have not been empty words. It has been a bumpy journey and Carla and her team have not wavered in their commitment. Several weeks ago, we had our worse Sunday ever and I wrote an email of my regrets and thanks for the patience of those involved. Into my inbox was returned a host of supportive and kind emails. Shelby Hoggard, one of Carla's gems and secret weapons, called me a few days later to love and affirm me.

Perhaps that call was most moving because I remember a phone call six years earlier at our old church in California. A woman, who scarcely knew me, went to great pains to get my phone number after my five year old had a melt down while I was subbing in his Sunday School class. She wanted to "exhort" me: Did not I believe in "such and such?" Her favorite techniques had worked on kids

and grandkids. I mention this not to condemn her---maybe this woman was right in her methods. By now, I am so humbled that I can't say for sure. But what I do know is how differently support feels from judgment. And, interestingly, that support rather than judgment is the catalyst that frees us up to *grow*. Jesus came not to condemn, but His caring plan for all of us is not status quo but transformation. One day at a time.

So today if you are in need of some fun and transformation, consider walking down the stairs to join the Children's Ministry Team, where Jesus and joy regularly show up. Don't forget to give a big thanks to Carla and all her loving servants. And, of course, the next time you reunite with your children after Sunday School, check their breath for wine!

LIVING WITH A RULE OF LIFE: ACTION



It's Not Just Numbers, It's People.



by *Trey Myatt*
Junior Warden

MISSIONS & OUTREACH:

The budget: It's not just numbers, it's people.

Thank you for your financial giving last year. A lot of people were helped and the gospel was spread close to home and far away as a result of this.

I sit on the Mission & Outreach Committee (well they tolerate me) and I learned so much in the last Budget meeting. I fully expected to be snarky about where the money goes, because, of course, *I know best*. Well I was wrong. Wrong. Wrong. Wrong. The way this meeting was handled was amazing. The openness and collaboration that I saw was something I thought I'd never see. The give and take, the creative use of funds, the "one time gift" situations was inspiring. I came out of there amped to do my job on Vestry and to better serve on the Mission & Outreach Committee.

Let me share what the M&O plans to do with the money provided from tithing to the general fund this year.

Your money will go to help children in Liberia and with Safe Haven on Dickerson Road. We will give to the youth in Germany and those in the St. Luke's community. Financial support will be given to college students through InterVarsity, Campus Crusade for Christ and InterFace ministries. We will help the homeless through giving to Room In The Inn, Mobile Loaves & Fishes and Safe Haven.

Getting to Know Our Junior Warden:

How long have you been at St. B's? *6 years-ish*
Were you at any church before St. B's? *Christ Presbyterian*
Who makes up your family? *Knuckleheads....Married to Jamie for 17.5 years. Rachel is 11. Owen is 9.*

Things you're involved in at St B's? *Vestry. Mobile Loaves. RITI from time to time. SOFTBALL.*

In the community? *Help coach O's baseball and am a dance dad.*
Favorite thing to do as a family? *Watch sports. Eat out. Play outside with kids in the neighborhood. Sitting on the porch with friends.*

Coollest place you've ever been? *New York the first time. Shadow Nursery in Winchester before dark.*

Favorite part of the Sunday liturgy/worship? *When the kids come in & "Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you, with gladness and singleness of heart."*

Would you rather see a movie or read a book? *TV.*

Would you rather when cooking, follow a recipe or wing it? *Order in*

Would you rather live in the city or the country? *City.*
Would you rather go to a party with a big crowd or have dinner with a few close friends? *Hang out with a few friends.*

What gifts do you bring to the job of junior warden? *Sometimes a different viewpoint. I'm not afraid to voice an opinion even if it may be unpopular. Not afraid to dream and see the potential this church has. I get pretty fired up about things that I think could be done.*

What hopes do you have as junior warden?
Focus on communicating all the great things this body does. We have tremendous givers. We have so many people involved within our walls helping our parish. We have a loving Pre-School/MDO program. We have fantastic musicians. We have ministries that we volunteer on such a frequent basis. The women's and men's groups have such momentum right now. For a body our size to provide so many man hours of work is an accomplishment that we should not lose sight of. We also have a great base of generous financial givers that give to the church.

We will give to the home bound community through Charis. For families in need we will help through Rooftops, Charis, St. Luke's and Safe Haven. Current Missionaries in Liberia and Germany will be supported as well as charities that assist missionaries.

And we will be financially supporting three seminarians.

What drew me to St. B's was the exposure my family would have to local missions. I had no idea of how far the mission field reaches. I'm so glad that we can do so much from tithing to the general fund.

There's some ministries that need money, there's some that need "heads and hands" and there's some that need both. I look forward to sharing with you what those needs are and where we all can get involved.

Our Junior Warden's Prayer for St. B's:

- ° that we would not be afraid to step outside our comfort zone.
 - ° that we would be a place of trust in God and in one another.
 - ° that we would continue the good work that we are called to do.
- THAT WE WOULD REMAIN A PLACE FILLED WITH LAUGHTER, A PLACE OF COMFORT & A PLACE OF RENEWAL**



Forgiveness & Resurrection

A Youth Ministry Retreat

LIVING WITH A RULE OF LIFE: EXTERNAL FORMATION



by *Steven Lefebvre*

Assistant Director of Youth & College Formation

A few weeks ago we embarked on our annual Ekklesia youth retreat. Every Spring we head up to Monteagle's Dubose Conference Center and have a retreat based on a particular topic. This year's topic was **forgiveness** and it was surprisingly one of the best retreats we ever had.

"Learning about things that people don't usually talk about and learning to address the negativity that is inside of you was something I really found useful. I don't necessarily think I have a lot of negative feelings but it was cool actually getting to hear other people's stories about it, I felt really connected in that way," said Patrick Howard one of our 8th graders and indeed the retreat was a wonderful example of community. The last couple of years we have had varying degrees of success connecting with our young people. Most of the time the hard part is trying to figure out exactly where the youths are as a whole in their spiritual journey. What we realized in the midst of this retreat was that EVERYONE has pain and questions about how to deal with it, no matter their age or background. Anna Wyse, one of our sophomores affirms this, "what I really liked about the retreat is that the large group conversations delved into areas of my life I needed to begin processing, (hearing) other people's stories reminded me I had a story of my own to process." Brent Andrews, an 8th grader, had a similar experience, "I enjoyed talking about how to say that you were wrong and forgive people, it's something I don't really talk about so it was good getting that stuff out of my head."

We had four sessions, below is a list of the sessions and some of the things we talked about. If you would

like to learn more about these topics email Fr. Dixon or me.

Forgiveness Suits Us – We were created to be forgivers. The whole ark of our narrative as followers of Jesus is built on reconciliation. Holding onto bitterness and hatred comes from the same places that holding onto our possessions come from: power, fear, doubt, and control. Being a follower of Jesus is built on the foundation of being a charitable, self-sacrificial people, who give everything back to God and God's creation. To be a follower of Jesus is to be a forgiver.

How Do We Forgive – We hear mantras like "forgive and forget" but often times this just isn't practical because of the pain we're in. People sometimes don't want our forgiveness, they are unwilling to see how they hurt you, but the pain is still there. Saturday morning we talked in depth and addressed these issues. "It was helpful talking about how forgiveness doesn't necessarily mean things go back to the way they used to be" (Matt Rhea, Adult Volunteer/College Student).

The Future of Forgiveness – On Sunday morning we headed up to Sewanee Divinity School, had Eucharist and conversation at the Chapel of the Apostles. Nathan Mennen, an 8th grader, took this away from our retreat, "I learned that forgiveness has everything to do with making peace with God." Why do we

forgive? It's because this whole thing is headed towards resurrection. If we say we believe in Jesus' resurrection, forgiveness is the way we demonstrate it. In the age to come, when Jesus comes back to set everything to right, the Great Reconciliation will occur. All the ways people in this world benefited from oppressive powers and violence will be reconciled with those that were hurt by it. When we forgive, we join God in that work of healing and restoration. In the age to come there won't be any temptation to be bitter or hateful because power and violence will have no currency. We forgive because that is the true reality of the way things are going to finally be and the direction things are actually going now!

In the spirit of The Resurrection this Easter season, we, the members of St. B's Youth, invite you to join us in working through our issues of forgiveness. Do you have pain you can't let go of? Do you have guilt that burdens you? Do you feel alone in your suffering? This Easter season come share it with us, share it with one another, share it with God. Forgiveness isn't just a *part* of Christianity, it is Christianity. To find wholeness and resurrection in Jesus

Continued on page 18



Hope *continued from page 8*

give more for His kingdom. I have a desire to make every day count for something eternal.

But, there are bad days. There are days when I am gripped with fear and anxious about what the future holds. There are nights when I can't sleep and I pray over Mark and his health. I want to grow old with my husband. I want the assurance that everything is going to be o.k. I want to be in control. I don't want pain, struggle and uncertainty. Who does? Until about three years ago (when God called us to move overseas), I had ordered my life in such a way as to prevent pain and uncertainty. I was pretty successful. In the past three years though, God has been doing some major renovations in my heart and I am learning to live with the tension that sometimes God asks us to do hard things.

I think C.S. Lewis sums up this tension well in this quote:

"Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in

the roof and so on; you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is He up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of - throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself."

I very much want to be a palace that is fit for a King but often I would rather settle for the decent little cottage, especially if it means safety and security. My hope is that as I daily rest in His new mercies, the good days will far outweigh the bad ones. I hope that I can view the hard things of life as merely chapters in the beautiful story that God is writing in my life. I am so thankful that the faithful love of the Lord never ends! I am thankful that His mercies never cease. Great is His faithfulness. My hope is in Him!

Forgiveness *continued from pg. 17*

we must start by forgiving and repenting of the wrongdoing we were apart of. It's not something we can figure out over night, but it is something we must begin talking about. May you accept that invitation today.



Step out of the traffic.
Take retreat

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Interested in a pilgrimage to Israel? A number of people have expressed that they are. Exploration is being made for a community trip from March 8th through March 17th of next year. The return trip which is all inclusive from Nashville will be no more that \$3600. If you are interested in more information, please email Fr. Jerry at jerrysmith@stbs.net.

Pilgrim's pray with their feet.

Silent Directed Retreats

Jesus is longing for an ever-deepening relationship with us. Directed Silent Retreats are opportunities to take time away from all the demands in our lives to be with Him, to grow in relationship with Him and to allow Him to give to us. For more information please contact Gail Pitt at 615-714-9311 or Gaibee4@aol.com.

Upcoming 2011 Retreat

Dates:

April 29- May 1
May 6-8 & 13-15
June 21-25

More dates on www.stbs.net





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

Gretchen & Judson Abernathy 5/27
 Mark Baldwin & Wendy Baldwin 5/29
 Bill & Pat Bowlby 5/16
 Zena Carruthers & Steven Thorne 5/5
 Greg & Karen Daniel 5/13
 John & Natasha Deane 5/21
 Rodger & Suzanne Dinwiddie 5/17
 Matt & Vanessa Hardy 5/11
 John & Patricia Insani 5/14
 Roger & Thorunn McCoy 5/20
 Jim & Teresa Robinson 5/16
 Heather & Morgan Wills 5/17
 David & Grace Woolbright 5/28

Birthdays

Jim Alcott 5/13
 Al Andrews 5/18
 Mark Baldwin 5/18
 Taylor Blandford 5/24
 Micah Bradley 5/8
 Patrick Cason 5/11
 Ruthie Collins 5/7
 Christina Covey 5/11
 Griffin Cropp 5/13
 Hannah Daniel 5/10
 John Deane 5/23
 Suzanne Dinwiddie 5/12
 Marilyn Droman 5/4
 Benjamin Ennis 5/18
 Bryan Ennis 5/29
 Lisa Fenton 5/18
 Andy Garner 5/7
 Corry Garner 5/25
 Randy Goodman 5/10
 Victoria Gross 5/9
 Gerrit Gustafson 5/10
 Benjamin Hampton 5/7

Emily Hornsby 5/4
 Naomi Jones 5/3
 Olivia Lauer 5/9
 Stella Lauer 5/6
 John Leo 5/5
 Hadley Maxwell 5/7
 Jay McRae 5/28
 Gracie Mennen 5/8
 Jamie Myatt 5/21
 Tom Pichert 5/30
 Anne Pitt 5/20
 Micah Pressnell 5/25
 August Price 5/10
 Jill Pullen 5/9
 Philip Reasor 5/27
 Elizabeth Rodgers 5/29
 Larissa Root 5/23
 Phil Shay 5/22
 Heather Smith 5/31
 Allyson Southwood 5/6
 John Southwood Jr 5/18
 Heinrich Tischler 5/15
 Mr Joel Tomlin 5/10
 Audrey Weedman 5/4
 Claire Weedman 5/4
 Emmaline Weedman 5/8
 Nancy West 5/18
 Pamela White 5/16
 Corinne Wilder 5/16
 Amy Wirdzek 5/7
 Leah Grace Woolbright 5/7

Baptism

Matthew Dale Gillmor 4/23
 Eliza Joy Netherland Swihart, 4/23
parents Seth and Miriam Swihart
 Warren James Ramsey, 4/23
parents Marc & Jenny Ramsey

Births

Katherine and Thomas Petillo welcomed baby Knox on March 27th
 John and Katie Moessner welcomed Aaron Samuel Moessner on March 31
 Aaron and Betty Ashton Mayo welcomed Harrison Ward Mayo on April 12

Deaths

Mackenzie Manus on April 7



St. B's 3rd Annual Wine Tasting

**Friday, June 24th
 6:30 - 8:30pm
 in the Parish Hall**

More information is coming but be sure to mark your calendars and consider donating goods or services for the silent auction.

All money benefits Missions and Outreach.

**For more info contact
 Jonathan Merkh:
jonathan.merkh@simonandschuster.com**



st. bartholomew's church proudly welcomes

n.t. wright

"Reading The Gospels
For All They're Worth"

May 21st
9:00am - 4:30pm
\$35 (includes lunch)
Public Registration opens March 21st
at www.stbs.net



St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
4800 Belmont Park Terrace
Nashville, TN 37215

Don't miss this opportunity to hear one of the world's most renowned New Testament Scholars. Online registration closes May 7th.



Saturday, May 7th, 2011
2:00 - 4:00pm
In the St. B's Parish Hall

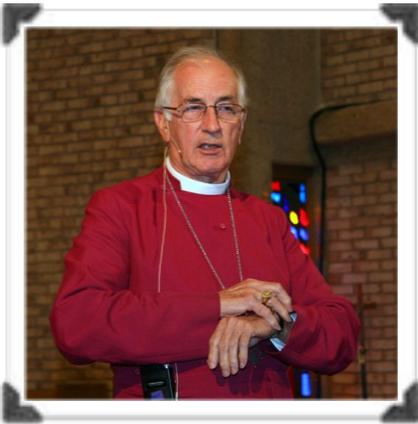
The women of St. Bartholomew's are invited to enjoy a time of tea, sandwiches, sweets and fellowship with one another. Please RSVP to churchoffice@stbs.net by **TODAY** if you are interested. If you need a ride, please include it with your RSVP.

We need volunteers to help pour tea, bake, make sandwiches, and help with preparation and cleanup. If you would like to help with these things, please contact Marjie Smith at: msscreebler@comcast.net.

LIVING WITH A RULE OF LIFE: EXTERNAL FORMATION

Why You Should Care *continued from pg. 15*

At a Q&A session after worship Carnley fielded questions from St. B's members about the current state of the American Church, the future of the Anglican Communion, and the place of the proposed Anglican Covenant. After his presentation many folks admitted to being interested in his commendation of the Covenant but a bit confused as to



why these issues should matter to them. It is to this question I will now turn.

One short answer is, I suppose, that day-to-day Anglican Communion issues do not affect everyone. For now the machinations happening in the Communion at a global level do not touch St. B's directly on a Sunday

morning. It is entirely possible to "go to church" here and not ever think about the broader connection we have to the Anglican Communion. People do it all the time and I see the appeal. Why involve yourself in matters about which you have no control?

However, this is kind of like getting married and deciding that your spouse's family is unimportant (or even unhealthy) enough to be disregarded. Such would be a naïve posture in a marriage and so too within the church. As Episcopalians, we are part of the Anglican Communion whether we like it or not. As such we have a responsibility, says Carnley, to image God through these international relationships. The Communion is our family and being part of St. B's means nurturing those relationships if by no other means than simply being aware of them. Communion matters do *matter* to all of us because we disregard our extended families to our own peril. This is as true in life as it is in the church and is the reason I believe Carnley's visit was a powerful reminder of our need to pray.

We must continually pray for our church. Not out of fear or anxiety but out of passion and love. There are indeed hot button issues that the Anglican Communion is trying to have conversation about. The only problem is there are no established ground rules and structures through which we can have those conversations. The proposed Anglican Covenant provides those boundaries and parameters and equip us to address the very real differences we have while still maintaining our unity. The alternative will be an increasingly fragmented church where one can no longer proclaim Jesus to be the Messiah (because as Jesus himself said, we must be one in order to do that. - John 17:23).

So let us pray! Pray for the mission of church, her faithfulness to Jesus' Gospel, and in the cases of our differences, her unity. In regard to the Anglican Communion at St. B's let us remember the words of St. Paul who counseled, "The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I don't need you!'" (1 Cor 12:21) and pray for God's kingdom to come in the Anglican Communion on earth as it is in heaven.

