

The Red Door

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church



Dear Friends in Christ,

Holy Week is a time set aside to remember our Lord's Passion from the time he entered Jerusalem until he was laid in the tomb. Various liturgies have arisen over the years in many different traditions to do just that. This year we'll be observing Holy Week with some of the old – and some which are old, but new for us.

We'll observe Palm Sunday in the usual way, at 11:00 a.m. with the procession around the block, singing our hosannas to the neighborhood, and remembering our Lord's passion during the reading of the Gospel.

Tuesday, March 30th, the first day of Passover in the Jewish tradition, we'll enjoy a Seder dinner, with commentary provided by Jews for Jesus entitled *Christ in the Passover*. If you would like to help me prepare the feast, please let me know.

Wednesday, March 31st, the solemn service of Tenebrae will be observed. This is a time to reflect on the meaning of our Lord's Passion with the reading of psalms and scripture.

On Maundy Thursday there will be two observances. Bishop Jones will be here at 1:00 p.m. with several clergy from throughout the Diocese for the renewal of ordination vows. At 7:00 p.m. that evening we will observe the traditional Maundy Thursday foot washing and Holy Eucharist, followed by an all-night vigil.

On Good Friday I would like to introduce you to the Moravian custom of reading from scripture all the events of that day, interspersed with hymns and times for prayer. Later that evening, we will conclude the day's observance with Stations of the Cross.

On Holy Saturday we will once again observe the Easter Vigil, one of the oldest liturgies of the Church. In ancient times it was the day for baptisms – and we'll be blessed to initiate Nat Rawlston Heard into the Body of Christ on that holiest of nights.

Please consider, as part of your Lenten observance, keeping as much of Holy Week as you can. It's been my experience that the more deeply I recall the events of that week, the more joyous my Easter celebration – as if to say that when you keep the fast, the feast is all the more precious.

Yours in Christ,

Michael Gray, Rector

Why Go To Church?

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday.

"I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this. They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!" When you are DOWN to nothing...God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!

Vestry Retreat Notes

The focus of this year's retreat was an expanded business meeting, devoting time not only to parish business, but to a discussion of why we do what we do.

The officers for this year are:

Senior Warden.....Evan Crow
Junior Warden.....Jon Whitman
Treasurer.....Frank Rivinus
Register.....Debbie Hoffman

Jack Garber was admitted to the Vestry, replacing Wally Horton, who transferred to St. James, Warrenton when the Horton's moved to Warrenton.

Becky Walser was selected by the vestry to serve as Convocation Delegate – and Tom Houston was selected to replace Pete Davies as our third trustee.

We are currently seeking two more members to serve on the Grants Committee. If you would like to serve, please contact Michael.

Frank Rivinus, Billy Yowell and Jack Garber have worked hard to revise our chart of accounts. There will be a detailed report once a quarter to review all budget items and consolidated reports the other months.

We discussed what an appropriate amount would be for the Diocesan pledge. Two schools of thought emerged – one – that we should tithe 10% of our plate and pledge to the Diocese as a matter of policy – another - that we should give what we can, based on our ability to contribute after our other obligations have been met. We are presently paying about \$5,000 less than a tithe, due to financial constraints this past year. What seems to be emerging is a goal to increase our pledge to the Diocese by \$1,000 a year in the future until once again, we are tithing.

Pledging this year and last has been remarkably strong. Despite the troubling economy, most members maintained their level of commitment from last year to this, for which we are all grateful.

After lunch we met in the chapel for a time of reflection, an introduction to the methods of scripture reading called *lectio divina*, a Benedictine spiritual discipline. Our text was John 7:53-8:11.

We welcome Bo Cornwell as our new Events Sexton – and we thank Barry Jacobs for his service in years past.

We need to reorganize our Welcoming Committee. If you would like to serve, please contact Michael – and don't be surprised if he might be contacting you in the near future. We also had an extended conversation about evangelism and entertained the possibility of that being a theme in this summer's preaching and teaching.

New worship services coming up:

- Holy Week – there will be a Seder dinner, with a presentation by Jews for Jesus, on March 30th, which is Passover night.
- The Good Friday Passion Play will have to be cancelled as the days devoted to rehearsals have now become school days instead of part of Spring break.
- April 3rd will be the Easter Vigil at 6:00 p.m.
- We will be trying a tradition Evensong Service on Saturday Evenings at 6:00 p.m. during the Easter Season.

We had a lengthy discussion about the relationship between the Food Closet and St. Stephen's. Some people have suggested that the Food Closet pay a portion of the electric bill for their use of the lower floor of the Adkins Building. Others feel that this needs to be part of our contribution to the ministry of the Food Closet, so that the Food Closet can always claim that every penny given to it will be spent on food for Culpeper's hungry people. We also discussed whether or not the Food Closet should become its own legal entity – so that it would be free to seek grant funding. (Should the Food Closet need to apply for a grant, it would have a problem receiving anything, as the church's \$2.5 million endowment fund shows a lack of such a need. At present there is no real need to pursue grant money, as the community has been incredibly generous.) At present the Food Closet operates under the aegis of St. Stephen's as a ministry of this congregation, even though more than half of our volunteers are not members here. On the one hand, it is truly a community ministry – on the other, St. Stephen's has supported this work mightily. The reality is – it's not only one of our ministries – it is also a community wide project.

We decided to leave things as they are. The Food Closet is strong financially – but should the Food Closet managers feel the need to become their own entity, we would revisit the issue then. We also decided to not ask for a contribution from the Food Closet towards our electric bill, so that we can continue to make the claim that all money given to the Food Closet will be spent on food for the hungry.

Birthday Wishes March Babies!

March 1st: Gisele Rivinus
 March 2nd: Allyson Jenkins
 March 3rd: Richard DeJarnette
 March 5th: Barbara Cook
 March 7th: Walter Burton, Jr.
 March 15th: B.J. DeJarnette
 March 18th: Carol Hudson
 March 20th: Tom Province
 March 20th: Jane-Ashley Jenkins
 March 23rd: Cecilia Eckhart
 March 24th: Christopher Snider
 March 28th: Mary J o Browning
 March 30th: Lou Ellen Miller
 March 31st: Tim Swenson
 March 31st: Stephanie Mawdsley
 March 31st: Graham Hadlock

Supper Club

Please remember, we will not be meeting in March due to the Lenten Season. We will resume dining out on April 15th at the Culpeper Country Club.

Please call Jo Ann Houston at 825-9049 or email joannejh@comcast.net To make reservations and for more details.

Happy Anniversary Wishes!

<p>Bud & Mary Jane Glass March 3rd</p> <p>Frank & Gisele Rivinus March 4th</p> <p>Buddy & Luke Goldsborough March 7th</p> <p>Michael & Lou Ellen Miller March 8th</p>	<p>Charles & Cathy Finke March 23rd</p> <p>Jim & Peggy Allen March 30th</p> <p>Bill & Tonya Miller March 30th</p>
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REMEMBER!

Daylight Savings Time



Daylight savings time begins on the second 2nd Sunday in March.

On March 14th, clocks are set forward one hour at 2:00 a.m. local standard time. So REMEMBER to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed Saturday night on March 7th!

*Dear members of
St. Stephen's church family,*

Thank you for your prayers. They have truly helped in my recovery. Perhaps my accident was a blessing. I now have an excuse for memory lapses.

Many thanks to the Prayer Shawl Ministry. The shawl is lovely; my most favorite color. I appreciate so very much every prayer that was knitted into this lovely work of art.

Much love to all,

Eleanor Lewis

*The Sunday of the
Passion is*

*March
28th*



NEW

Sunday School

Beginning February 28th from 9:15 a.m. - 9:55 a.m., we will be holding a new Sunday School class for members who can't make it to our 10:00 a.m. class. This will work especially well for choir members and our 8:00 a.m. congregation. Emmetri will be leading every Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in the library. Hope to see you there.



Mulch Madness Fundraiser

Once again Young Life will be selling mulch to raise money for Culpeper kids to attend Summer camp. Last year they raised \$8,000. Their 2010 goal is \$10,000. Order forms are in the Parish Hall foyer next to the bulletin board. Please return your completed form along with payment (make checks payable to Young Life) to the office no later than March 21st. Delivery dates are March 6th, 13th and 27th, free delivery.



The Brotherhood of St. Andrew

“For the spread of Christ’s kingdom among men and youth”

Please join us for breakfast and study every Tuesday morning at 7:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall or every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall.

Member Networking

Sharing your skills, talents, hobbies or business services with other church members is a great way to get to know one another. Please email Karen at communications.ststephens@gmail.com if you would like to share with others.

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Receive a \$10 discount when you bring five non-perishable items for the Culpeper Food Closet (cannot be expired goods, or combined with other offers)

BO CORNWELL HANDYMAN SERVICES

Services Include, but is not limited to:

- ✓ Painting ~ interior / exterior
- ✓ Staining ~ Decks
- ✓ Deck Repairs
- ✓ Pressure Washing ~ house, deck, porch
- ✓ Lawn Services ~ mow, trim, clean-up
- ✓ Hauling
- ✓ Light Tree Work
- ✓ Plumbing ~ repair, replace, install

Discounts for church members and referral. References available. **Call 540-717-9841.**

March 2010 ~ Year C

Date	Time/Service	Lay Readers	L/P	Lectionary
<i>March 7th Third Sunday in Lent</i>	8:00 a.m. HE	Ray Schreiner	Lessons	Exodus 3:1-15
		Emmetri Beane	Prayers	Psalms 63:1-8
	11:00 a.m. HE	Jim Allen	Lessons	I Corinthians 10:1-13
		Cathy Zanella	Prayers	Luke 13:1-9
<i>March 14th Fourth Sunday in Lent</i>	8:00 a.m. HE	Emmetri Beane	Lessons	Joshua 5:9-12
		Harold Boyd	Prayers	Psalms 32
	11:00 a.m. HE	Tom Lewis	Lessons	II Corinthians 5:16-21
		Frank Rivinus	Prayers	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
<i>March 21st Fifth Sunday in Lent</i>	8:00 a.m. HE	Harold Boyd	Lessons	Isaiah 43:16-21
		Marty Moon	Prayers	Psalms 126
	11:00 a.m. HE	Kim Helsel	Lessons	Philippians 3:4b-14
		Tricia Whitman	Prayers	John 12:1-8
<i>March 28th Palm Sunday</i>	8:00 a.m. HE	Marty Moon	Lessons	Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29
		Ray Schreiner	Prayers	Luke 19:28-40
	11:00 a.m. HE	Cathy Zanella	Lessons	Isaiah 50:4-9a
		Jack Garber	Prayers	Psalms 31:9-16
				Philippians 2:5-11
				Luke 22:14, 23:56

March Usher Schedule

- March 7th:** Barb Rosica, Dick Rosica,
Elizabeth O'Reilly, Walter Burton
- March 14th:** Marshall Gayheart, Rick Turner,
Melanie & Bob Chambers
- March 21st:** Billy DeJarnette, Harry Smith,
Kim Helsel, Lee Kirk
- March 28th (Palm Sunday):** Aaron Ward, Julie Yowell,
John Hallett, Bobby Ryan

March Altar Guild



*Jo Ann
Houston*

*Harriet
Scott*



*American
Red Cross*



Give Blood - The Gift of Life

To learn more blood donation opportunities, visit:

www.givelife.org or call

1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543).

**Tues., March 9th
from 12:30 pm ~ 6:00 p.m.**



St. Thomas Circle

Our March meeting will be at the home of B.J. DeJarnette. We will meet on Tues., March 16th at 7:00 p.m.

Please bring food to share for our evening meal. For directions or for more information, please call B.J. at 825-4276.

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 • 7:30 pm Vietnam Veteran's Mtg.	2 • 7 am Brotherhood of St. Andrew • 7 pm Al-Anon	3 • 9 am Order of St. Luke • 10 am Morning Prayer • 11 am Bible Study • 6 pm Red Cross Mtg • 6:30 pm Lenten Supper and Study	4	5 • 6:30 pm Prime America	6 • 8 am Young Life Golf Mtg
7 Third Sunday in Lent • 8 am Holy Eucharist • 9 am Service for Children • 10 am Choir Practice • 10 am Brotherhood • 10 am Sunday School • 11 am Holy Eucharist • 12:20 pm Acolyte Practice • 12:30 pm ECW Coffee Hour • 12:30 pm Revelation Youth Group Meeting • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter	8 • 10 am ECW St. Anne's Chapter • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter • 6 pm SPRW • 7 pm Vestry Meeting	9 • 7 am Brotherhood of St. Andrew • 12:30 pm Red Cross Blood Drive • 1 pm Kent Rahm Mtg • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter • 7 pm Al-Anon	10 • 10 am Healing Service & HE • 11 am Bible Study • 1 pm Organ Tuning • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter • 6 pm Red Cross Mtg • 6:30 pm Lenten Supper and Study	11 • 9 am Prayer • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter	12 • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter • 6:30 pm Wyldelife	13 • 8:30 am Deacons School • 10 am Ham Radio • 10:30 am Al-Anon District Mtg • 4 pm Scrapbooking • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter • Set clocks forward 1 hour at bedtime
14 Fourth Sunday in Lent Daylight Savings • 8 am Holy Eucharist • 9 am Service for Children • 10 am Choir Practice • 10 am Brotherhood • 10 am Sunday School • 11 am Holy Eucharist • 12:20 pm Acolyte Practice • 12:30 pm Coffee Hour • 12:30 pm Revelation Youth Group Meeting • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter	15 • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter • 6:30 pm Canterbury Way • 7:30 pm Ham Radio	16 • 7 am Brotherhood of St. Andrew • 8 am Ministerial Assoc. • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter • 6 pm Red Cross Mtg. • 7 pm Al-Anon • 7 pm St. Thomas Circle at BJ DeJarnette's	17 • 9 am Order of St. Luke • 10 am Healing Service & HE • 11 am Bible Study • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter • 6:30 pm Lenten Supper and Study	18 • 9 am Prayer • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter • 6 pm Red Cross Mtg • 7 pm Culpeper Photo Club	19 • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter	20 • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter
21 Fifth Sunday in Lent • 8 am Holy Eucharist • 9 am Service for Children • 10 am Choir Practice • 10 am Brotherhood • 10 am Sunday School • 11 am Holy Eucharist • 12:20 pm Acolyte Practice • 12:30 pm St. Thomas Coffee • 12:30 pm Revelation Youth Group Meeting • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter	22 • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter • 6 pm People for Pets	23 • 7 am Brotherhood of St. Andrew • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter • 7 pm Al-Anon	24 • 9 am Prayer Shawl • 10 am Healing Service & HE • 11 am Bible Study • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter • 6:30 pm Lenten Supper and Study	25 • 9 am Prayer • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter The Annunciation of Our Lord Jesus Christ to the Blessed Virgin Mary	26 • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter • 6 pm Red Cross Mtg	27 • 9 am Women's Aglow • 10 am Palm Cross Making • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter
28 Palm Sunday • 8 am Holy Eucharist • 9 am Service for Children • 10 am Choir Practice • 10 am Brotherhood • 10 am Sunday School • 11 am Holy Eucharist • 12:20 pm Acolyte Practice • 12:30 pm Brotherhood Coffee • 12:30 pm Revelation Youth Group Meeting • 5:30 pm Heat Shelter	29	30 • 7 am Brotherhood of St. Andrew • 7 pm Seder Dinner • 7 pm Al-Anon	31 • 10 am Healing Service & HE • 11 am Bible Study • Tenebrae			