

The Keys

St. Peter's Parish Church

June 2010

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KEYS Editors: stpeters.keys@gmail.com and stpeters.admin1@gmail.com

From the Rector's Desk

It's hard to believe that in only a few short weeks those large yellow rolling roadblocks -- also known as school buses -- will no longer be roaming the roads of New Kent County. School children will be rejoicing, parents will be wondering what to do with them, summer vacations will be starting, and places at "the rivah" will once again ring with the sound of happy voices.

Those happy voices are heard at St. Peter's from September through May, and occasionally during the summer at Vacation Bible School and Power Pals Camp, among others. Carol Nelms and her volunteers have done and are doing a marvelous work with our Church School children and youth. Time would not permit me to name all those who contribute to the ministry of Christian Education here, but I can assure you -- if you aren't familiar with what they're doing -- that they're doing it extremely well, and we owe them many thanks for their commitment, their dedication, and their hard work.

Unfortunately, adult Christian Education hasn't fared so well. David Swynford and Brett Marshall have been leading it, and they have tried a number of different approaches. There have been book studies, lectionary discussions, and video series. But judging by attendance figures, none of them have seemed to have been what our adults are wanting. So, given that what we've been trying this past year or two hasn't worked, it's time to try something else. And this "something else" will require your help.

But without your help, we don't know what that something is. In a previous parish they had "Adult Forum." Throughout the year, people came and spoke on different topics, some spiritual, some not so much so. Someone would come and speak on organ donation and transplantation one Sunday, the next would be finances and senior citizens, then for three weeks someone would speak on the Gospel of John. That's been tried here, I understand, without much success. It's rather disheartening to have someone come from Richmond, for example, and speak to only five people.

It may also be that the general consensus is that we don't need adult Christian Education at all -- that it's fine for children and youth, but you'd rather spend that hour drinking coffee and chatting with friends. So we're asking for your input. If there's something you'd like us to try in adult Christian Ed, or if you've decided that we really don't need to offer it, call me at 932.4846, Senior Warden David Swynford at 652.8839, Junior Warden Bill Lindsey at 757.345.9950, or your own personal Vestry person. Go to www.stpetersnewkent.org, our new website, and submit a contact form. E-mail me at stpeters.lector@gmail.com or the Wardens, David at dswynford@hotmail.com or Bill at lindsey8411@verizon.net. We need your help and your input to determine the future of adult Christian Education in St. Peter's.

Now let me follow up on last month's column on sex -- more specifically, "Sexual Abuse and Misconduct: Prevention and Response." As I said, almost everyone who does anything in the church is covered by this policy. The best way to find the requirements for your particular position is to go to www.thediocese.net, the Diocesan website, click the "Resources" tab, and then select "Sexual Misconduct Prevention." There's a link on that page to download the manual. Once you have that open, pages 16-18 list what is required by position. Everyone covered must read the manual -- the first twenty pages or so -- and then some tabs specific to your position. Once you've done that, please submit to the church office Tab B-3: "Certification Regarding Reading of Policy Manual." You'll be hearing more about this later in the summer. We've also recommended two parishioners to be certified as trainers, so that should help us fulfill the workshop requirements more easily.

I am your brother in Christ,

Paul †

Wardens' Corner

One of the items that has been on my heart and mind recently has been strengthening our parish and parish life. There's no doubt that a vital congregation is growing, how do we encourage that growth? Do we ask our neighbors to attend church or church functions with us? Would they enjoy the Annual Parish Picnic? Your invitation to a friend or neighbor could change their life and have a profound impact on our congregation. Bishop Jones recently gave a talk to diocesan clergy and others on this topic, so I'll borrow liberally from his notes. There are many hallmarks of a strong church, but five distinct keys to a growing church are:

1. Are we interested in lifelong spiritual growth? Adult formation, whether through Adult Education at church, small groups, Bible studies or personal readings are vital. Growing churches have members that are growing too. Are we helping others, maybe children, achieve spiritual growth? What do we project to our children and our fellow parishioners when regular church attendance isn't a priority? Does it seem like more of a chore or an opportunity to praise and worship God? What type of Christians will follow our legacy? Sometimes "spiritual growth" is sort of like "church growth." It's one of those things we think we ought to be in favor of, but when we look at our budget of time, talent, and treasure, how much of our resources are being committed to that growth? And if we support it, and it happens, will we be happy with the result? Or, does it matter if WE are happy as long as God is pleased?

2. Is prayer a central part of our Christian lives? If not, why not? How can we as a church better instill that communication link between ourselves and God? Active participation in groups that pray together is often the best solution.

3. Congregations are strengthened when we encourage making a personal commitment to Jesus Christ. Bishop Jones said, "We cannot assume that everyone has already made an adult commitment to Jesus as Savior and Lord. Every congregation, large and small, needs to provide avenues for commitment to Christ. We cannot assume that people in our pews know the story or that they know the Master. Evangelism is an integral part of mission. While I appreciate the formal process of confirmation, reception and reaffirmation, a congregation also needs an informal and pastoral way that a person can make a commitment to Jesus. And I cannot think of a more effective way of opening this subject than the avenue of sharing one's faith story in a small group of trusted friends or in a personal visit with one's pastor. For it is in the telling of one's story and in the listening to the stories of others, that our hearts are opened to make an even deeper commitment. When it is assumed that all of us are on a journey of faith, that all of us have room to grow, we can encourage our brothers and sisters along the way to take that first step of faith."

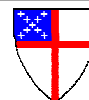
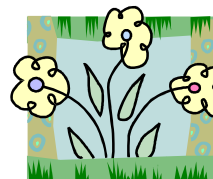
4. We strengthen our congregations when we teach people to give, focus on the blessing that year round stewardship of our time, talent and treasure provides.

5. Congregations are strengthened by providing multiple opportunities for service. "We strengthen our congregations when we tend to their roots – to the basics: to education, prayer,

Resource & Development News

Looking for the perfect gift for that June grad, bride, or for a birthday? Check out the ANGELS IN THE KITCHEN cookbook in *Martha's Gift Shoppe*. Save 10% off the purchase price of \$15 through June.

~ *Miriam Ackley for the R & D Committee*



St. Peter's Parish Church

The Very Reverend Dr. S. Paul Rowles, *rector*
Sherri W. Hardiman, *parish administrator*
Samuel G. Bruce, *organist and choirmaster*
Stuart R. Burnett, *clerk & treasurer*
Mark Whidden, *assistant treasurer*
Susan E. Cheyne, *verger*
Joyce H. Molina, *register*

The Vestry

David Swynford, *senior warden*
Bill Lindsey, *junior warden*

Class of 2011

Stuart Burnett (932.3925)
Steve Peterson (843.2036)
David Swynford (557.3533)

Class of 2012

Denise Fazio (932.9224)
Bill Lindsey (757.566.8132)
Major Mansfield (779.2105)

Class of 2013

Padgette Evelyn (932.3289)
Nancy Goodman (932.3609)
Rod Molina (932.3990)

The Keys

Sherri Hardiman & Julie Vaisvil, *Editors*
Kim McLean, *Altar Guild Chair*
Adriane Marshall & Leo Vaisvil
EYC Advisors
Carol Nelms, *Church School Superintendent*

(Continued on page 5) 2

Christian Education

Christian Education Update

As we wrap up another Church School year, I must thank a dedicated group of teachers for sharing their time and talents with our children: Karen Moore, Kim von Hitritz, Brian Gellings, Steve Miles, Bobby Nelms, Steve von Hitritz, and Bill Lindsey have volunteered their time for many, many years. I have always been able to count on them for wonderful attendance and enthusiasm for whatever new I have wanted to try. This is a great group and I hope that you will tell them "thank you" as well!

We will recognize our teachers and children on Youth Sunday which will be held at 11 am on June 6. Please come and share in our celebration! Our own Children's Choir will sing!

~ Carol Nelms, Church School Superintendent



Worship

Easter Decorating Thanks. . .

Having so many of St. Peter's family members come out to help decorate the church for the holidays is greatly appreciated. Again, this Easter, St. Peter's was transformed into a lovely spring garden, thanks to Susan Cheyne taking charge of the east window, and Brett Marshall balancing atop the ladder to decorate the bull's-eye window, which is not an easy task.

Thanks also to Sally Smith, Barb McKinney, Janie Philbates, Cindi Burnett, Corinne Dorsey, Jon Ackley, and Cynthia and Paul Rowles for their decorating expertise.

~ Kim McLean, Altar Guild Chair

Children's Choir News

We have had a great first year of Children's Choir. This fantastic group will give their final performance for this Church School year on Youth Sunday, June 6. Please mark on your calendars the following practice date: Sunday, June 6 at 10:30 am.

We have enjoyed working with such a wonderful group of choristers!

~ Carol, Joyce, Hawthorne, Marianne, and Jennifer
Children's Choir Staff



Photo by Rod Molina

High Seas Expedition!

at Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars now for *High Seas Expedition*, Monday, August 2 through Friday, August 6, from 9 am-12 noon!

The planning for VBS is well underway. We need teachers and staff for crafts, snack, mission, movies, preschool, and games. We also need crew leaders for the different age groups. Soon, we will have a table with registration forms in the foyer of the Parish House.

All children from ages three through rising fifth graders are welcome to participate. We will be asking for donations from the congregation for snacks. Be on the look out for a snack sign-up board in the Parish House. If you have any questions, please contact Kristin Swynford (557-3533) or Jennifer Ezzell (932-4029). We appreciate all of your donations and hard work for this important mission for our children and community!

~ Kristin Swynford & Jennifer Ezzell
VBS Co-Directors

Outreach

Clopton Memorial Scholarship Awards

Two New Kent High School seniors were awarded one year scholarships of \$1,000 each by St. Peter's Parish Church at a reception May 16. The funds for these scholarships come from the Louise Miller Clopton and William Boyd Clopton Memorial Scholarship fund. Awards are made to students who demonstrate strong moral character, religious involvement, community service, motivation, and academic success.

Recipients for 2010 are Kendall Bunting, who will major in Mass Communications at Virginia Wesleyan College and Austin Smith, who will study Sports Medicine at Liberty University.

These students were chosen by a committee made up of Bill O'Keefe, the Very Rev'd S. Paul Rowles, Sally Smith, Steve Peterson, Janie Philbates, and Doug Beagle. According to the committee, each recipient demonstrated maturity, strong moral values, and a commitment to their community, while being active in New Kent High School activities. They reflect well on their families and fully meet the selection criteria of the scholarship fund.

~ *Bill O'Keefe, Committee Chair*



2010 Clopton Scholarship Recipients
with Steve Peterson and Their Parents

9th Annual Sets Records!



We had a fabulous day for our **9th Annual St. Peter's Golf Tournament!** Thanks to the generosity of all of you and our church community, we raised over \$11,000 to support our Youth Mission trip to Daytona Beach and other outreach projects of St. Peter's! The 9th Annual Golf Committee wishes to thank all of our hole sponsors, prize donors, main sponsors, dessert makers, golfers, and volunteers who made the tournament a BIG SUCCESS!

There was something quite interesting about this year's event...the team that registered last for the tournament (two days before the event), actually won the tournament with a score of 54, 18 under par! The winning team was Huffman Industrial Welding & Metal Fabrication (Phil Huffman, Chase Huffman, Chad Strayer, and John Lowery). And, the team that registered for the tournament first (two months in advance), actually finished in last place with a score of 71 (1 under par)! That team was Team Molina (Rod Molina, Paul Rowles, Stan Wells, and Billy Wells). The prize for the losing team was a bucket of golf balls donated by Zach Quimby so the team could practice up for next year's 10th Annual!

Watch for a more detailed write-up in the July/August issue of *The Keys*.

~ *May O'Leary, Kristin Swynford, Nancy Goodman, Traci Carlson, and Patty Peterson*
St. Peter's 9th Annual Golf Tournament Committee

Golf Tournament Dinner Thanks

I want to thank everyone who helped to make the 9th Annual Golf Tournament dinner a success. Thank you: Adriane Marshall for coordinating the youth servers and thanks to all of the youth servers; Mary Hitchcock for helping with setup and making the baked beans; Kelly Gellings for helping with setup; Scott Goodman for picking up the chicken; Craig and Catherine Pierce for donating the potato salad; Bryan Pitts for donating the cole slaw; and Atlantic Growers for the flower centerpieces. Thank you to Leo and Julie Vaisvil, Barb McKinney, Cynthia Rowles, Joyce Molina, and Helen Poad for their help.

Also, thank you Shirley Meyer, Barb McKinney, Kim von Hitritz, Cynthia Rowles, Miriam Ackley, Sandra Gellings, Carol Nelms, Carol Kay, Charlotte Woodall, Joyce Peterson, Mava Miles, Jennifer Ezzell, Traci Carlson, Patty Peterson, Emily Clay Evelyn, and Catherine Stanley for making desserts. There are some wonderful cooks at St. Peter's; everything was wonderful!

Everyone's help is what makes the Golf Tournament dinner special and I appreciate each and every effort.

Thank you,

~ *Nancy Goodman, Dinner Coordinator*
9th Annual Golf Tournament

**Save the Date for
Worship, Fun, and Fellowship on the River**



Annie and Boogie Davis are once again offering their beautiful riverfront setting for our Annual Parish Picnic scheduled for August 8, 2010. Details will follow in the July/August issue of *The Keys*.

Wardens' Corner (Continued from page 2)

evangelism, giving and service." When people volunteer to serve, let's encourage them, even if "so and so has always done that before."

On my first visits to St. Peter's. I found the folks friendly and welcoming. But, do others see us as so close a group that new friendships can't -- or don't want to -- be formed? Bishop Jones said, "I would suggest that friendships are rarely formed at coffee hour. Rather, they are formed outside coffee hour through working and studying and playing together. What is needed are opportunities for new members to engage others in mission. Research has shown that a person who can identify at least six friends in a congregation will be highly unlikely to leave. But the person who cannot make friends is likely to leave. If we really want newcomers to be part of our worship, some concessions need to be made by those on the inside. Worship needs to be planned with the visitor in mind. Instructions are needed, even if they are annoying to the liturgical purist. We cannot project an attitude that visitors should know what we mean by BCP and HE II."

When Jesus called his disciples, he said that he would teach them to fish for people. To grow congregations, we need to develop eyes of a fisherman. We need to be near the water and have fishing equipment to fish for people. We need bait and to bait the hook. We won't catch fish if the worms stay in the can. We need to fish in the right waters, and we need to be patient. God will give the increase. "

One final note on the Trinity from Roman Catholic Commentator Karen Armstrong which I found interesting:

To say Jesus is God is a partial expression of the divine. God is unnamable. You can never know the essence of the divine. But God has adapted this ineffable transcendence to our limited understanding and has come to meet us. So Christians have experienced God as Father, a sort of brooding, sort of caring presence; as Spirit immanent within us; and as Word, which is spoken in Jesus and in creation. These are the external, like my gestures and my clothes and my words are me. But they don't exactly define what "me" is. We know God's external qualities, but we can never know his *ousia* or inner nature.

~ David Swynford, Senior Warden

June Birthdays

- 1 Linwood Gregory
- 1 William Holloway
- 2 Lindsey Lewis
- 2 Trevor Evelyn
- 2 Lydia Woodall
- 3 Brian Gellings
- 5 Adriane Marshall
- 5 Ella Ezzell
- 6 Patty Peterson
- 6 Stephen Honeycutt
- 9 Scott Goodman
- 9 Lee Tyson
- 15 William Townsend
- 16 Chuck Evelyn
- 16 Lydia Danielson
- 18 Maggie Noctor
- 18 Brian Ashford
- 19 David White
- 19 Kent Bradshaw
- 21 Kim Holloway
- 22 Ray O'Leary
- 22 Louis Keith Miles
- 23 Trey Gregory
- 24 Barbara Ballard
- 24 Ann Bradshaw
- 27 Alex Noctor
- 27 Edward McCaul, Jr.
- 29 Bernie Geisner
- 30 Thomas Jeter



Anniversary Blessings for June

- 2 Marvin & Cindy Smith
- 2 Louis & Carole (Bunny) Miles
- 8 Bill & Kathy Lindsey
- 16 Matthew and Tabitha Harris
- 24 Rod & Joyce Molina
- 25 Jayne & George Pinelli
- 26 Tom & Emily Clay Evelyn

June 2010 Rota

Note: If you are unable to serve when scheduled, please find a replacement and notify the office. Thank you.

Date		June 6, 2010	June 13, 2010	June 20, 2010	June 27, 2010	July 4, 2010
Service Type		HE I @ 9 & 11	HE I @ 10 am	HE I @ 10 am	HE I @ 10 am	HE I @ 10 am
Proprs		Proper 5 Youth Sunday	Proper 6 3 Pentecost	Proper 7 4 Pentecost Father's Day	Proper 8 5 Pentecost	Proper 9 6 Pentecost
Vestry Greeters	9 11 or 10	Steve Peterson Volunteer	Steve Peterson	Steve Peterson	Steve Peterson	Denise Fazio
Acolytes	9 11 or 10	Nancy Goodman Wil Miles Ashley Pierce Catherine Peterson Cameron Fazio	Caroline Evelyn Madie Miles Lilly Tyson Zach Quimby	Chris McKinney Ashley Pierce Torun Carlson Catherine Peterson	Jon Gellings Kelly Gellings Zach Quimby Gunnar Carlson	Erich von Hitritz Philipp von Hitritz Lilly Tyson Cameron Fazio
Peter's Heralds	11 or 10	Ella Ezzell	Lydia Danielson	Annabelle Brame	Clayton Evelyn	Stephen Honeycutt
Chalicers	9 11 or 10	Adriane Marshall Allan Fabritz	Lee Tyson	Stuart Burnett	Norm Valor	Brett Marshall
Lectors	9 11 or 10	Miriam Ackley Chris McKinney	Lee Tyson	Stuart Burnett	Norm Valor	Linwood Gregory
Intercessors	9 11 or 10	Jon Ackley Erich von Hitritz	Cindy Greer	Jon Ackley	Joyce Peterson	Barb McKinney
Sidesmen	9 11 or 10	Tony Lewis Jon Gellings Philipp von Hitritz Steve Miles to supervise	Tom Evelyn Neil Quimby	Linwood Gregory Ralph Ashton	Brian Gellings Thomas Evelyn	Susan Cheyne Lee Tyson
Oblationers	9 11 or 10	Kendall Hatley Corinne Dorsey Caroline Evelyn Kelly Gellings	Norma & Tony Lewis	May & Ray O'Leary	Joyce & Rod Molina	Edna Christian Karen Moore
Nursery	11 or 10	Kristen Honeycutt Stacey Wood	Becky Woodall Volunteer	David & Kristen Swynford	Karen Moore	Adriane Marshall
Altar Guild Group		III, Cyndi Burnett	IV, Betty Curling	V, Kim McLean	VI, Joyce Molina	I, Edna Christian
Hangings		Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Garden Guild Group		2, Cathy Bersik	3, Sally Smith	4, Carrie Evelyn	1, Jayne Thomas Pinelli	2, Cathy Bersik
Altar Flowers		Greer/Forrest Wedding Flowers		Craig & Catherine Pierce	Emily Clay & Tom Evelyn	
Lemonade			Kendall Hatley	Sandra Gellings	Ray & May O'Leary	Cynthia Rowles

It's Cool Beverage Time!

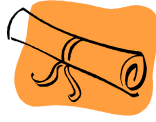
Spring is here and summer is just around the corner. We're about to enter that time of year that requires plenty of cool beverages—in cans, glass bottles, and (the dreaded) plastic containers. Please keep up your recycling efforts, especially as our use of these containers increases.

Also, we at St. Peter's continue to recycle in an effort to make St. Peter's GREEN. Even Sunday leaflets are "recycle eligible." Whether on Altar Guild, Fellowship, Vacation Bible School, or just our normal summer "Lemonade Under the Tower" or other get-togethers, please remember to use the recycling containers in Richardson Hall and RECYCLE, REUSE, RENEW.

~ The Recycling Fairy



Congratulations, Graduates!



College

Anna Stuart Burnett earned a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies at Washington & Lee University. She will be employed with Virginia Institute of Marine Science.

Tricia Davis earned a Bachelor of Science in Allied Health/Coaching at Bridgewater College. Her future plans are undecided for the moment.

Matt Lambert earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business/Organizational Management at Bridgewater College. He is currently interviewing.

High School

Kate Jeter, valedictorian of New Kent High School, will major in animal and poultry sciences at Virginia Tech. Later, she is planning to attend veterinary school.

Winter Rae is a graduate of New Kent High School and plans to attend Old Dominion University. There, she will study nursing and her plans include serving as an officer in the Navy Nurse Corps.

We are proud of you and wish you the very best!!!

THE KEYS is now available for viewing in color on the home page at www.stpetersnewkent.org. This is a quick way to check events and the Rota. You can even print a copy of the Rota if yours is misplaced!

Remembering Those Serving Our Country, Near and Far

Justin Gallaher,
Christopher Quarles,
Christopher Minter,
Edward Allen,
Julio Gonzalez, Jr.,
Sam Guinn,
Carsen Tyson,
Phillip Harrell,
T. J. Lowe,
Randy Fuhrman,
Dirk Holshausen,
Tristen Trivett,
and Vadim Simakhov



We Ask Your Prayers For:

Those in our parish family who are sick:

Lawrence Christian, John Sowder, Mary Hitchcock, Bob Carraway, Louis Miles, Rollin Rosser, Sarah Lindsey, Jim Douglass, and Fred Bahr.

... and all others known and unknown.

Maria Nellie Bruce, mother of Sam Bruce;
Eric Valor, son of Norm Valor;
Steven Harrell, son of Sue Caldwell;
Charlie Cowins, brother of Kathy Lindsey;
Karen Dedomenico, cousin of Doug Begeal;
Wilma Bonney, grandmother of Craig Pierce;
Kathryn Goodman, mother of Scott Goodman;
Lorna Taber, friend of Miriam and Jon Ackley;
Jimmy Jones, friend of Kendall Hatley;
Michael Murphy, friend of Bill O'Keefe;
Nancy Smith, friend of Jean and Major Mansfield's daughter;
Liz Jones DeVoll, daughter of Bishop Jones;
Zack Kreiger, brother of Jane Bahr;
Sharon Hulsing, former parishioner;
Danny Crews, father of Kaitlyn and Kasey Crews;
Kathryn Callis, mother of Mava Miles;
Alden Sewall, Jr., uncle of Ann Bradshaw;
Louise Taylor, cousin of Sally Smith;
Sandra Griffith, friend of Fred Bahr;
Christine Mattox, friend of Patrick and Jessica Evelyn;
Andrea Lister, friend of Bernie Geisner;
Ruth Rowles, mother of Paul Rowles;
Gloria Bisette, friend of Debbie Smith;
Jay Westerman, friend of Major and Jean Mansfield;
Reagan Davis, great niece of Kim McLean.

***Give them courage and hope
in their troubles and bring them
the joy of your salvation.***

From the Parish Register

Baptism

Helena Faye Harris, April 11, 2010

Burial Office

Kenneth Landis Sitterson, April 24, 2010

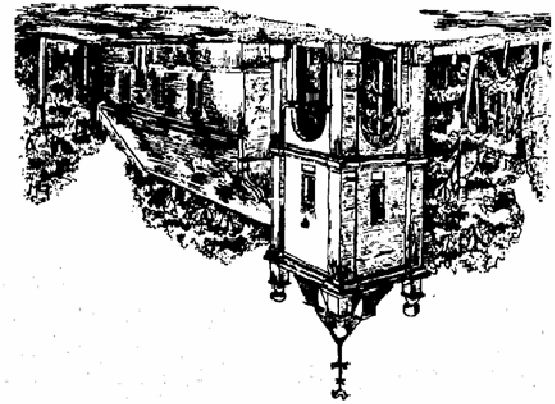
Transfer Out

Roger Allen Gregory, to St. Paul's Episcopal Church,
Kansas City, Missouri



The Keys

Parish Founded 1679
Church Erected 1701



RETURNED SERVICE REQUESTED

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New Kent, Virginia 23124-9633

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Upcoming St. Peter's Events To Note

June 2010

- 1 Church Office Summer Hours Begin
- 4 Greer/Forrest Rehearsal, 5 pm
- 5 Greer/Forrest Wedding, 4 pm
- 6 Youth Sunday at 11 am Service,
Reception to Follow
- 13 Summer Schedule Begins, One Service at 10 am
- 15 Last Day for Submissions to July/August THE KEYS
- 20 Father's Day
- 21 Vestry, 7 pm
- 26 Church Tour at 10 am
- 21-24 Power Pals Camp – Week 1
- 28 – 7/1 Power Pals Camp – Week 2

July 2010

- 11 Commissioning of Missioners, 10 am
Parents' Meeting Following Service
- 12 Vestry, 7 pm
- 24 – 30 Youth Mission Trip to
Daytona Beach, Florida

August 2010

- 2-6 VBS: *High Seas Expedition*, 9 am - 12 Noon
- 8 Parish Picnic at the Davis Farm, 11 am, HE
- 15 Last Day for Submissions to September THE KEYS
No Vestry Meeting in August



June
Celebrations

