

St. Peter's Parish Church

Мау 2011

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From the Rector's Desk 📖

Recently I took a survey that asked respondents how many states they had been in. It took some time for me to fill out! I've been in every state east of the Mississippi, from Wisconsin to Louisiana, from Maine to Florida, and everywhere in between. I've also been in Texas, Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, New Mexico, and California. If I counted right, it adds up to thirty-two, so I still have some left on my "life list."

Speaking of Florida ... that's a nice place to visit. Tampa, Miami, Orlando, Daytona, Canaveral, are all nice places. Don't leave out Pensacola, home of the Blue Angels and our last Bishop, and nearby Perdido Key. And the beaches! Apollo Beach, Playalinda Beach, South Beach, and the Gulf Islands National Seashore. Wonderful places to visit, but I would not want to live there. Retiring and moving to Florida holds no attraction to me. I am, as the old saying goes, "Southern by birth, a Virginian by the grace of God" and there is no place I hold in deeper affection than the state of my birth. I'm also reminded of the old saying that you should never ask someone if they're from Virginia. If they are, they'll tell you soon enough. If they aren't, you don't want to embarrass them.

There are numerous reasons why I wouldn't want to live in Florida, but one of them is – they have no weather. It's always summer. They have rain, they have fog, they have hurricanes, to be sure, but no real weather. A week or two ago we went from thirty degrees to sixty to eighty in three days! Since January we've had snow, sleet, hail, almost-zero-degree weather to mid-eighties, and sixty-mile-per-hour wind. They don't have mountains or valleys, either. Many places I can stand up in the bed of a pickup truck and be the tallest thing for twenty miles around. A little variety is good for you in temperature, weather, and elevation.

Many people would like to live in Christmas where it's always jingle bell time. Christmas trees and candy canes, Santa Claus and presents, elves and eggnog are right where they want to stay. Others like Easter Day and Eastertide: spring bonnets, flowers, Easter dresses, chocolate bunnies, Easter egg hunts, happy and uplifting music make us all feel good. Almost no one, though, would pick Lent as their favorite church season. Mournful music in a minor key, the Great Litany (what? again?), no flowers, no alleluias, repentance, self-examination, drab colors – the whole thing's just depressing.

By the time you get this we will have gone through Holy Week, culminating in the Easter Triduum. We get a brief respite from Lent on Palm Sunday with the happy procession from Parish House to church, but we move immediately into the Passion. What begins with "Hosanna" and "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord" ends with "So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone."

Things are pretty quiet until we arrive at Maundy Thursday. Some modern versions have it as "Holy Thursday," but it is really "Maundy," from *mandatum*, the Latin word for "commandment," specifically the "new commandment" that Jesus illustrated at the Last Supper by washing the feet of his disciples. On this day we emphasize both the remembrance of the meal that Jesus shared with his disciples "in the night in *(Continued on page 4)*

Wardens' Corner

Through the period of Lent, our objective has been to emerge from this period of introspection with a renewed sense of purpose and a religious forbearance centered on the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ. To prepare for such an awakening, my research finds that throughout Lent, the Eastern Orthodox Church reads Genesis and Proverbs at their Vespers. However, at the beginning of Holy Week, these two books are replaced with readings from the books of Exodus and Job. Exodus is read to exemplify Israel's liberation from Egyptian slavery as heralded in the Passover. Job, on the other hand, is read to present the perplexing circumstances regarding Christ's suffering, obedience, and sacrifice.

Job is a quite interesting perspective of a wealthy man with a large family that always did his best to avoid doing the wrong thing. Although Job literally suffers from a contest between God and Satan resulting in the loss of his family, the elimination of all his worldly possessions, and serious threats to his personal health, he continues to be faithful.

Although God eventually returns Job's health, providing him with twice as much property as he had before, new children, and an extremely long life; the dominant theme of Job remains with a difficulty of understanding: why an all-powerful God allows good people to suffer.

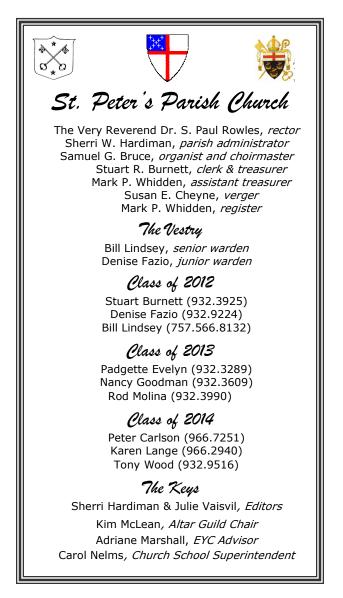
By no means can I tell you that I know the answer to this question. Over the last year as Kathy and I have searched and prayed for the cure to Sarah's disease, I've returned to Job a number of times seeking the solace that all will end well. Specifically, I find these words:

He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed, miracles that cannot be counted. Job 5:9

Even as Job experienced his world turning inside out, I can only imagine that he continued to reach out to these words for the faithful strength that he needed to endure such tribulations. Fast forward to the news of the day and you find the terrible tragedies in Japan, wars in the Middle East and on and on and on. Unquestionably, the individuals that find themselves (Continued on page 4)







Christian Education



Children's Choir

We are wrapping up another fun and successful year with the Chil-

dren's Choir. Thank you to the parents who have consistently brought their children to choir practice. We have had a great time together!

Our last singing opportunity in church this year will be Youth Sunday, June 5, at 10 am. We will practice at 10:30 on Sundays: May 1, 8, and 22.

~ Jennifer Ezzell, Joyce Molina, Carol Nelms, and Hawthorne Davis

Honoring the Graduates



St. Peter's 2011 high school and college graduates will be honored in the June issue. A form is available to collect the pertinent information about each of them. Copies are available in the Parish House foyer and in the church.

Graduates, or someone close to them, please complete a form and place it in the Parish Administrator's mailbox in the vesting room <u>before</u> May 6, so we may include this information in the salute to graduates.

June 5 has been designated as Youth Sunday and the beginning of our one service Summer Worship Schedule. Our youth will assist with the 10 am service, Church School awards will be given, and we will recognize our soon-to-be high school graduates and recent college graduates. A special reception will follow the service.

~ THE KEYS Staff

Christian Education

Many thanks to our Church School students for the wonderful crafts they contributed for the Palm Sunday Art/Bake Sale. Thank you also to those parents who baked goodies for the sale! We will report how much we collected in the June issue of THE KEYS.

The High School class will be preparing for Youth Sunday during the month of May. Youth Sunday will be at 10 am on June 5. This is a wonderful event to celebrate with our youth! The students are involved in all parts of the service: sidesmen, lectors, intercessors, oblationers, and delivering the homily. Our Children's Choir will sing at this service. Students will be recognized for their church school attendance. Please join us as we celebrate with our students and honor our graduating seniors. Plan to join us in Richardson Hall for a reception following this service.

There will be no Church School Memorial Day weekend, Sunday, May 29.

~ Carol Nelms, Church School Superintendent

Thank you, everyone, for your support !



Eagle Scout Jon Gellings

From the Rector's Desk (Continued from page 1)

which he was betrayed" and thanksgiving for instituting that holy meal through which he has been present with the Church throughout all ages. It's interesting that the Gospel reading for this night emphasizes the washing of the disciples' feet, and not the meal. Yet, for most of us foot-washing still falls far outside our comfort zone.

Good Friday begins with Morning Prayer, followed by the Stations of the Cross at noontime, remembering that our Lord Jesus Christ "didst stretch out his arms of love on the hard wood of the cross." When we return to church that evening for the proper Liturgy of the Day, we return in silence to the setting we left the night before. The service begins in silence and processes quickly to the lessons and the reading of the Passion Narrative according to St. John. We begin in silence, and we depart in silence.

But then comes the glory of Easter Day. Happy music from the balcony, sung by the choir, happy hymns all throughout the day. Children singing, flowering the cross, happy music (did I say that before?), festive coffee hour, lots and lots and lots of bright, colorful flowers, flags back, banners back, and even the "Alleluias" make their return. It's a tremendous day.

People who live in places like we do, where there is variety in weather, appreciate the coming of spring in a way that people who live in more temperate climes never will. People who never go through the rigors of Lent never appreciate Easter fully, either. People who remain in Christmastide with "gentle Jesus, meek and mild" never fully comprehend how the darkness of the Triduum contrasts with the joy of Easter and the resurrection of Jesus.

So enjoy the weather of whatever season you're in. Remember that this is Virginia: if you don't like the weather, stick around – it will change before long. And remember that this is the Episcopal Church. If you don't like the liturgical season, stick around. That, too, will change before long, giving you heightened appreciation for the changing of the days.

Now I can say it: Alleluia! Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Faithfully,

Paul †



Wardens' Corner (Continued from page 2)

mired in such turmoil certainly question, "why me?"

Such a question must return us to the bed rock of our Christian life that is founded on the principle of enduring faith and the knowledge of the greatest sacrifice that was made for us to ensure our everlasting salvation. I choose by faith to believe in God's wonders and continue to seek His guidance because I know that miracles can come true!

Your Vestry trusts you and your family are enjoying a heartfelt Happy Easter season and we look forward to worshiping with you at St. Peter's throughout the year!

Yours in Christ ~ Bill Lindsey, Senior Warden



St. Peter's 10th Annual Golf Tournament

Our *10th Annual* is just two weeks away – Friday, the 13th!! It's not too late to organize a team or sponsor a hole, please let us know as soon as possible. All proceeds benefit our Youth Mission Trip and other mission/outreach projects.

Four person, captain's choice format teams are \$75 per person or \$300 per team. Green fees, cart, beverages, dinner and prizes are all included. Our goal is 30 teams. Hole sponsors will have an advertisement or sign with your logo or name at one of the 18 holes during the tournament for \$100. Thank you to those who have already signed up as sponsors. All hole sponsors and golfers will receive one of our special 10^{th} *Annual* hats.

If you'd like to make a dessert and/or help with our dinner for the golfers, please call Nancy Goodman at 932-3609. We want to make this year's 10th Annual our biggest and best tournament ever!

Please call any one of the 10th Annual Committee members with any questions Traci Carlson (966-7251), Nancy Goodman (932-3609), May O'Leary (909-3535), Patty Peterson (966-7310), or Kristin Swynford (557-3533). Flyers and sponsor forms are located in the foyer of the Parish House.

~ May O'Leary, Chairman

Garden Guild News

Spring is always a busy time for Garden Guild members. We have been working to prepare the beds for summer by weeding, raking, picking up winter debris, and spreading new mulch. Thanks to Thomas and Carrie Evelyn who once again provided the hardwood mulch, and to Ralph Ashton who always helps us shovel and spread it.

Thank you, especially, to the hard working guild members: Carol Nelms, Susan Cheyne, Carrie Evelyn, Kendall Hatley, Jennifer Ezzell, Ginny Morrow, Sally Smith, Barbara McKinney, Charlotte Woodall, and Karen Moore. The grounds at St. Peter's are beautiful and restful because of the hours that these members dedicate.

If you ever stop and look around at all of the garden beds at St. Peter's, you will understand that this is a big job for a small group of people, and we are always seeking new members. We are divided into four rotating groups who take care of the garden chores in spring, summer, and fall. Please contact me at jaytpinelli@aol.com if you would like to join the Garden Guild. You will be welcomed with open arms!

~ Jayne Thomas Pinelli Garden Guild Chairperson





Getting Ready for the Palm Sunday Sale

Summer Acolyte Schedule

Attention all acolytes and parents!

If you know your vacation schedule and that your children will not be available on certain Sundays, I would like to take those dates into consideration when developing the acolyte schedules for the rotas in the June and July/August issues of THE KEYS. That will hopefully minimize trading between acolytes and last minute substitutions. If you have already provided this information to Allan, I have those dates.

Please e-mail me at <u>s.miles@suntrust.com</u> before June 1. Also, please provide me with your e-mail address as I will begin e-mail reminders in June. Thank you for your assistance with this important worship role.

~ Steve Miles



 $\mathcal{M}ay\ \text{2011 Rota}$ Note: If you are unable to serve when scheduled, please find a replacement and notify the office. Thank you.

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Date Service Type Propers		May 8, 2011 HE II @ 9 & 11 3 Easter Mother's Day	May 15, 2011 HE II @ 9 & 11 4 Easter	May 22, 2011 HE II @ 9 & 11 5 Easter	May 29, 2011 MP II @ 9 & 11 6 Easter Rogation Sunday	June 5, 2011 HE II @ 10 am 7 Easter Ascension of the Lord Youth Sunday
						(One Svc. Begins)
Vestry Greeters	9	Peter Carlson	Peter Carlson	Peter Carlson	Volunteer	
	11 or 10	Padgette Evelyn	Padgette Evelyn	Padgette Evelyn	Padgette Evelyn	Tony Wood
Acolytes	9 11 or 10	Nancy Goodman Chris McKinney Philipp von Hitritz Torun Carlson Gunnar Carlson	Miriam Ackley Wil Miles Madie Miles Lilly Tyson Zach Quimby	Jon Gellings Erich von Hitritz Philipp von Hitritz Clayton Evelyn Christine Best	Kelly Gellings Caroline Evelyn Caroline Nelms Lilly Tyson Zach Quimby	Ashley Pierce Austin Pierce Catherine Peterson Cameron Fazio
Peter's Heralds	11 or 10	Jack Swynford	Lydia Danielson	Trevor Evelyn	Ella Ezzell	Grant Stanley
Chaliaana	9	Duett Manakall		Name Vales	N1/A	
Chalicers		Brett Marshall	Julie Vaisvil	Norm Valor	N/A	
	11 or 10	Bobby Nelms	Steve Miles	Margie Harrison	N/A	Adriane Marshall
Lectors	9	Patty Peterson	Nancy Goodman	Norm Valor	Larry Gallaher	
Lectors	11 or 10	Bobby Nelms	Chris McKinney	Steve von Hitritz	Ray O'Leary	Chris McKinney
		Dobby Nonito				
Intercessors	9	Lisa Guthrie	Joyce Peterson	Kathy Lindsey	N/A	
	11 or 10	Jane Bahr	Barb McKinney	Steve Miles	N/A	Jon Gellings
Sidesmen	9 11 or 10	Tony Lewis Linwood Gregory Chuck Evelyn	Jon Ackley Lee Brammer Stuart Burnett	Rod Molina Thomas Evelyn Patrick Evelyn	Brian Gellings Lee Tyson Neil Quimby	Phil von Hitritz Wil Miles
Oblationers	9	Catherine & Craig Pierce	Janet & Larry Gallaher	Sandra & Brian Gellings	N/A	
	11 or 10	Carolie & Bob Kay	Susan Cheyne Lee Tyson	Kristin & David Swynford	N/A	Madie Miles Caroline Nelms
Nursery	11 or 10	Adriane Marshall	Emily Anne Evelyn Caroline Evelyn	Kim von Hitritz	Karen Moore	Stacey Wood
Altar Guild Group		III, Cyndi Burnett	IV, Betty Curling	V, Kim McLean	I, Edna Christian	II, Jay Francisco
Hangings		White	White	White	White	White
Garden Guild Group		2, Carol Nelms	3, Sally Smith	4, Carrie Evelyn	1, Jayne Thomas Pinelli	2, Carol Nelms
Altar Flowers		George Pinelli				
Coffee Hour		Cynthia Rowles Jeff Fazio				

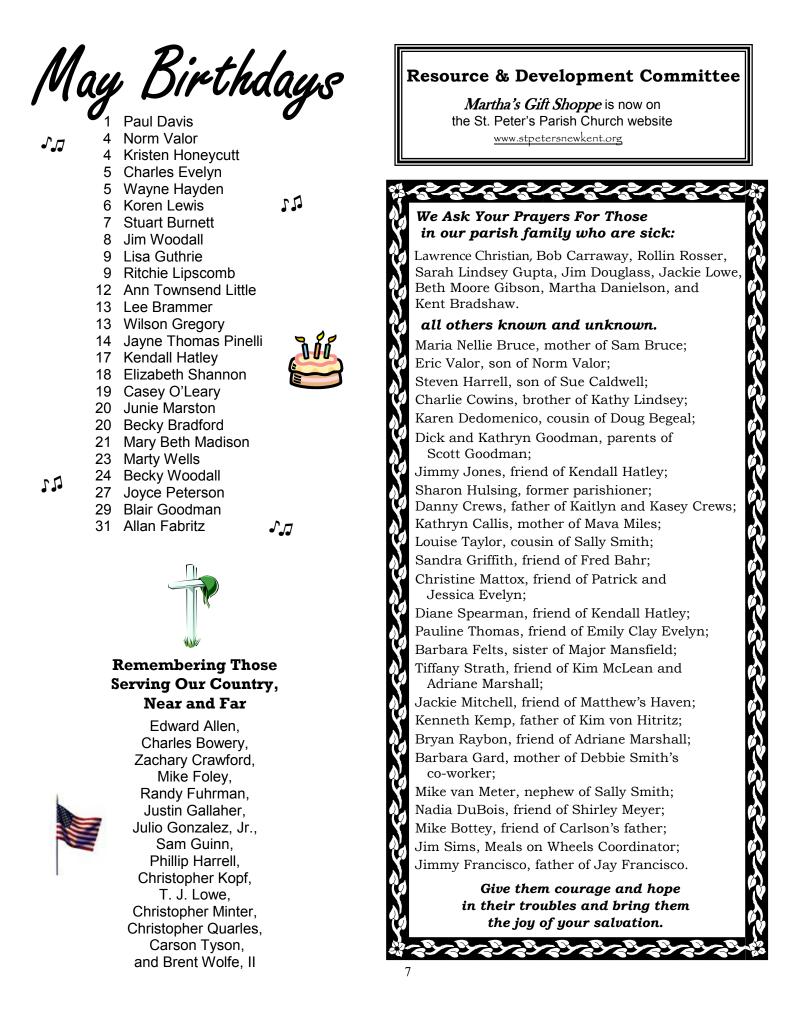
Save the Date For VBS!

Vacation Bible School is coming to St. Peter's August 1 - 5, from 9 am - 12 Noon. Stay tuned for more information in the June issue of THE KEYS.

~ Chrissy Wagner, VBS Director

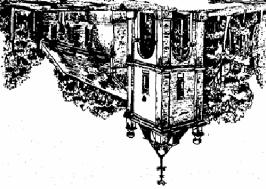
The New Kent Historical Society toured St. Peter's Sunday, March 27, 2011. Loretta Davis serves as the NKHS President.





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Church Erected 1701 Parish Founded 1679



KETURNED SERVICE REQUESTED

New Kent, Virginia 23124-9633 8400 St. Peter's Lane Episcopal Diocese of Virginia ST. PETER'S PARISH CHURCH

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Upcoming St. Peter's Events To Note

May 2011

- 8
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- Inquirers Class, 10 am Mother's Day Vestry, 6:30 pm Last Day for Submissions to June THE KEYS Golf Tournament at Brookwoods, 1 pm Colonial Dames' Dedication & Meeting, 11 am 10
- 13
- 14
- Contact: Bill Lindsey Clopton Reception Following the 11 am service
- 15
- 29 30 No Christian Education
- Church Office Closed for Memorial Day Church Office Summer Hours Begin
- 31

Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Proverbs 30:31



June 2011

- 4
- 5
- Youth Retreat, Gwynn's Island Youth Sunday, Reception to Follow Summer Schedule Begins, One Service at 10 am Meals on Wheels Dinner, Richardson Hall, 4 7:30 pm
- Last Day for Submissions to July/Aug THE KEYS 15
- 19 Father's Day
- Vestry, 6:30 pm 20
- 20 30 Power Pals Camp, Richardson Hall

July 2011

- Church Office Closed for Independence Day
- 17 Commissioning of Missioners, 10 am Parents' Meeting Following the Service
- 18 Vestry, 6:30 pm 21 29 Youth Mission Trip to Puerto Rico