

THE JOURNAL OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MARYLAND

MARYLAND CHURCH NEWS

SPRING
2010

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RURAL MINISTRY



Lord Christ, when you came among us, you proclaimed the kingdom of God in villages, towns and lonely places: Grant that your presence and power may be known throughout this land. Have mercy upon all of us who live and work in rural areas; and grant that all the people of our nation may give thanks to you for food and drink, . . . respect those who labor to produce them, and honor the land and water from which these good things come.

Prayer for Towns and Rural Areas, Book of Common Prayer, p. 825

The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland has a new web address! Find out more about the new and improved diocesan web address and how it affects you on page 21.

All God's Peeps

Biblical stories illustrated in PEEPS®



THIS EXCLUSIVE DIOCESE OF MARYLAND PROJECT invites anyone with a shoe box, leftover PEEPS and some imagination to create a diorama of a Bible story, parable or Psalm featuring PEEPS brand candies. These beloved marshmallow creations that have become a mainstay of Easter baskets can now become the central characters in entries to the diocese's All God's PEEPS contest. The goal of this Easter season project is to inspire people to read the Bible and provide a fun and educational activity for individuals, groups and families. We present this contest with the blessing of Just Born, Inc., makers of PEEPS.

You can't have a contest without rules

- Visit the Christian Formation Web site for updates and all things PEEPS.
- Entrants illustrate a Biblical passage, parable, or Psalm featuring PEEPS, in or on a standard-size shoe box. Other materials may include non-perishable food items, candies and crafts supplies (PEEPS from other holidays are permissible).
- Entrants submit no more than two high-resolution digital photos (300 dpi or greater) as JPEG attachments for judging and review to mcn@episcopalmaryland.org. In the message, include your name and age or group name, parish, daytime phone number, the Biblical passage, parable or Psalm, and a brief description of its significance or creation.



- Categories: Please specify the category in the subject line of your entry e-mail.
 - Individual Children and Youth: K-5th grade; 6th-8th grade; or 9th-12th grade
 - Individual Adult: age 18 and older
 - Group Effort: any project created by multiple people (Sunday School classes, youth groups, Bible study groups, Altar Guilds, families, etc.)
- Entries due by April 16; winners announced at Diocesan Convention, April 30-May 1 (*visit the home page for Convention details*).
- Entrants are invited to display their dioramas at Diocesan Convention. Just let us know if you want to bring yours or send it with your delegate.
- Winners' dioramas will be re-photographed and featured in the summer issue of *Maryland Church News*.
- "Celebrity" judges.
- Diocesan Staff are not eligible to win but may enter an exhibition diorama.

Prizes

- PEEPS prize packages for first and second place Bishops' Choice overall award winners.
- Each Category Winner will receive a Diocesan prize pack.

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Web Calendar

Stay up-to-the-minute on diocesan and parish events with the **Web Calendar**. Click the Calendar link on the diocesan home page, episcopalmaryland.org, to find out the Bishops' Visitation Schedule and the diocesan Prayer Cycle. You can also submit an event for posting.

ON THE COVER: The Hermitage at St. Anne's in Smithsburg is a retreat center in the Benedictine tradition. Now open to receive guests in retreat, this mission of St. Anne's Church occupies the former rectory and can accommodate up to three guests at a time. Spending time in retreat, away from life's day-to-day demands, can help deepen one's relationship with God. Read about the hermitage on page 6.

MARYLAND CHURCH NEWS

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The Episcopal Church

THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION is a global community of 77 million Anglicans in 38 member churches/provinces (<http://anglicancommunion.org>), *The Most Rev. Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury*.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH is a community of 2.4 million members in 100 nationwide dioceses, 10 overseas dioceses and six extra-provincial territories (<http://episcopalchurch.org>). *The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop*.

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MARYLAND is a Christian community of 22,000 households in 116 congregations covering 10 counties and Baltimore City (episcopalmaryland.org). *The Rt. Rev. Eugene T. Sutton, Bishop of Maryland; the Rt. Rev. John L. Rabb, Bishop Suffragan of Maryland*.

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IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

LOOKING TOWARD A NEW HORIZON

Deadlines for next issue:

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Sharon Tillman, *Editor*

Val & Don Hymes, *Contributing Editors*

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Don Schroeder, *Advertising Associate*

[diocesan convention]



PHOTO: J. HOFFMAN

Moving Toward a New Horizon *Developing a Five-Year Plan for Our Diocese*

BY SHARON TILLMAN

MORE THAN 150 PEOPLE representing churches, clergy and institutions accepted Bishop Sutton's invitation to be part of the "Horizons Gatherings," a group created in response to his 2009 Convention address. This group was tasked with brainstorming and articulating "big rocks" or goals for the diocese for the next three-five years. Their meetings took place on Oct. 3 and Feb. 27 at the Bishop Claggett Center. Area meetings were also held last fall throughout the diocese to allow for input of all diocesan members. Following the winter meeting, where the Horizons members recommended six goals for the next three-five years, the Mission Strategy Group met with the Diocesan Council in March to present these "big rocks." The next step in the process will be a presentation to Convention for ratification of the goals.

Keynote Speaker:

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Butler, retired bishop of Southwark, England

Born in 1940, Bishop Butler is a scientist by background, having gained a master's and doctorate in electronics. He trained for ordination with the Mirfield Fathers at the College of the Resurrection in Yorkshire. Having been ordained in 1964

he spent three years as a curate in the Ely and Canterbury Dioceses, before spending 12 years as a lecturer in electronics and as chaplain, first at the University of Zambia and then at the University of Kent at Canterbury. During this period he was on the staff of Lusaka and Canterbury Cathedrals respectively.

Bishop Butler was the archdeacon of Northolt from 1980 to 1985 and then became bishop of Willesden (both in the London Diocese). He was appointed bishop of Leicester in 1991 and bishop of Southwark in 1998.

Bishop Butler has been active at the national level and until 1995 he chaired the follow-up to 'Faith in the City,' which published the controversial *Staying in the City* report. He chaired the General Synod's Board of Mission from 1995 until 2001, the Board of Social Responsibility from 2001 until 2003, and is now vice



Bishop Thomas Butler

PHOTO: SOUTHWARK PHOTO

chair (Public Affairs) of the Mission and Public Affairs Council. He is also chair of the Governors of Ripon College, Cuddesdon. He served as the General Synod representative on the Inner Cities Religious Council, an initiative set up by the Department of the Environment until 2001, and is currently co-chair of the Inter-Faith Network. He entered the House of Lords in 1997.

Bishop Butler is a regular contributor to BBC Radio 4's *Thought for the Day* and has taken part in other national and local TV and radio programs. He has also co-authored two books with his wife: *Just Mission* and *Just Spirituality in a World of Faiths*.

Bishop Butler just retired March 5, his 70th birthday. He is married to Barbara, who is the executive secretary of Christians Aware, an education and development charity. They have two grown children and three grandchildren.

southwark.anglican.org

226th Diocesan Convention

Moving Toward a New Horizon
April 30-May 1 :: Marriott Hunt Valley Inn

Pre-Convention Meetings

The 2010 Pre-Convention Meetings will be held on the following dates from 7-9 p.m. with the expectation that every Convention delegate will attend one meeting. *New Delegate Orientation* will take place at these meetings, along with information for Diocesan Convention.

- **April 19 – St. Anne's Parish**
Church Circle, Annapolis
410-267-9333
stannes-annapolis.org
- **April 20 – St. Thomas' Church**
2 E. High St., Hancock
301-678-6569
stthomas-hancock.ang-md.org
- **April 21 – Cathedral of the Incarnation**
4 E. University Parkway, Baltimore
410-467-3750
thecathedral.ang-md.org

Holy Hands, Holy Lands

A pilgrimage to the Holy Land, February 9-20

I write to you from a courtyard in the ancient monastery of St. George Mavrovouni on the island of Cyprus, where the elder Archimandrite Symeon (who does not speak much English) has led me on a little walking tour of these holy grounds. The words “holy” and “ancient” are commonplace all across the seas and lands of the Middle East. Cyprus has more than its share of these sacred spaces, as Christianity took root here centuries before the faith was introduced to northern Europe and the Americas.



PHOTO: JOHN SMITH

TAKE SAINT BARNABAS, the “son of encouragement,” for instance. He was one of the earliest First century Christian disciples, having converted shortly after the first Pentecost in Jerusalem. Named an apostle in Acts 14, Barnabas and Saint Paul travelled together on several missionary journeys around the Mediterranean Sea, first landing here in the city of Salamis, where Barnabas was martyred in AD 61. Barnabas is traditionally identified as the founder of the Church of Cyprus, which is part of the wider Greek Orthodox Church.

I would visit his tomb tomorrow, except that it is the only time that I can make a pilgrimage to the Tomb of Lazarus – yes, *that* Lazarus – who died for the second (and presumably last) time in Cyprus. His first tomb, where he was laid before Jesus raised him from the dead, is at al-Eizariya in the West Bank of Palestine, where I’m scheduled to be next week – and where I will join with 30 other pilgrims from the Diocese of Maryland.

I am a pilgrim. Here in Cyprus this week, where I have been invited by Bishop Michael Lewis to give four addresses before the 2010 Synod of the Diocese of the Cyprus and the Gulf, I’ve been hearing soul-stirring (and sometimes heart-breaking) stories of how Anglicans are witnessing for Christ, and working for peace and reconciliation in the midst of conflict. This far-flung diocese is responsible for Anglican (and other) churches in 10 nations, mostly located in Islamic communities that are frequently hostile to Christianity.

The diocese reaches into Iraq, where Canon Andrew White – affectionately and widely known as the “Vicar of Baghdad” – just told me that 11 of the 13 adults he baptized last year were targeted and killed for their faith. These martyrs followed the 93 parishioners who were killed in the devastating 2008 bomb attack on his church, St. George’s, Baghdad. They are rebuilding – again. They really need the space, as the growing congregation of over 3,600 members is now the largest church in that country. I hugged this courageous Christian, and gazed at the gentle but strong hands of one who rebuilds lives even more than he rebuilds churches. Holy hands, in Holy lands.

Next week, we pilgrimage to Jordan, Israel and Palestine as guests of Bishop Suheil Dawani and the Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East. By the time you read this, we will have embarked on “a holy Lent” by receiving ashes on Ash Wednesday in the wilderness where Jesus was tempted. We will have

I hugged this courageous Christian, and gazed at the gentle but strong hands of one who rebuilds lives even more than he rebuilds churches.

prayed the Way of the Cross in Jerusalem, walking the ancient way of Christ to his death and resurrection. We will have visited the ancient baptismal site of Jesus on the Jordan River, where the Diocese of Maryland has been invited to join with a few other dioceses in helping to build an Anglican church there. And we will have learned more about the roots of conflict in the Holy Land, establishing deeper ties with our brothers and sisters in the global Anglican Communion.

One of the purposes of this Pilgrimage to the Holy Land is to seek ways that the Diocese of Maryland can be in solidarity with those in this region who so desperately do not want to be left alone in their Christian witness. They have asked us to join with them in the ministry of reconciliation that we all share.

To my shame, much of the global church laments that American Christians display little sense of the world outside our own local parishes, much less than that which is beyond our dioceses and national borders. Recent studies indicate that only about 15 percent of American citizens have passports, and a lesser percentage actually use them. Our brothers and sisters across the Anglican Communion believe that we in the United States should be traveling more, not less, in order to expand our theological as well as cultural perspectives. Pilgrimages, more than tourist travel, provide the spiritual grounding for travelers to listen to new voices and movements that cannot be heard in our relatively comfortable environments.

We are all on a pilgrimage, aren’t we? We walk with Christ on this, our spiritual journey on earth, and we live in the hope of being resurrected with Christ on the last day. We travel with the conviction that our lives will be holy, and that we will strive to make our environments holy as well.

We all pray for holy hands. We need them to create “holy lands” wherever we go...on earth as it is in heaven.

Faithfully yours,

The Rt. Rev. Eugene Taylor Sutton
Bishop of Maryland

With No Previous Experience

In the fall of 1998 just after being ordained and consecrated a bishop I spent a week in Western Maryland. I had two visitations on successive Sundays and in the week between I saw each congregation and met with clergy and lay leaders. At that time no fewer than four churches were in transition.



I WAS ASKED THIS QUESTION: “Your experience has solely been in urban and suburban areas and certainly most recently in a very large church. So what do you know about rural and small town ministry?” I did not have an adequate response because at that time I did not have the experience. I also had no experience with mutual ministry or total ministry.

It is rather amazing that a decade later there are mutual ministry teams serving in seven of eight churches in Allegany and Garrett counties. On Feb. 1 the Rev. Theresa Brion from the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia became our Western Maryland missionary (see *Taking Mutual Ministry to the ‘Next Level’*, page 7). We give thanks for the ministry of the Rev. Richard Morley, who was our first missionary, overseeing the first generation, now in the Diocese of New Jersey.

What is mutual ministry?

It is not survival or an easy way to have clergy. It is a process of discernment and formation that builds up the community of faith and sees a team process as the way forward. In addition to ordained priests and deacons there are trained and commissioned lay leaders. St. Paul in the 12th chapter of I Corinthians speaks of gifts differing but of gifts that are for the “common good.” Mutual ministry is about building up communities of faith and building up the baptismal ministry.

In all of the churches where we have mutual ministry we have seen an increase in both ministry and attendance. There are services in Spanish and a new campus ministry at Frostburg State University among other new initiatives.

We have learned several things that have been applicable to other parts of our diocese. The use of ministry teams is now being replicated in Baltimore city at the Church of the Resurrection, St. Luke’s Church and the Church of the Holy Nativity. We have learned that with a team approach we can support one another in times of crisis. Finally, we have learned that the entire congregation is strengthened by mutual ministry. First, the congregation comes together to discern that which it is called to do, and then as members become leaders, they are supported by the very people they are called to serve.

The Church in rural areas and smaller towns is absolutely vital and often serves as centers for service as well as ministry. Each of our rural or small town congregations offers ministries of direct support to the community. For example, the Wilson Center at Grace Memorial Church, Darlington (Harford County), and the program for new library books by St. Andrew’s Church, Clear Spring (Washington County). There are many opportunities for community gatherings, formally and infor-

mally. For many years Murray Hall of St. Peter’s Church, Lonaconing (Allegany County), has been the gathering place for community events and clubs.

Not about numbers

In so many ways I have been the student on the full impact of rural and small town ministry. Mutual ministry, for example, emerged not from an edict or program but from conversation. Conversation has to begin with dignity. So often we look at churches and the first thing we ask is, “How many?” Many smaller congregations, regardless of location, feel that they are under the gun and fear they may be closed.

We need to move away from numbers and see vitality and engagement as presence in the community, energy for ministry and continuity. One of the joys in many of our rural and small town congregations is that I often see several generations at the same time. It is possible to retain the values even as areas change.

The Diocese of Maryland is facing many demographic changes as regions, notably Frederick and Calvert counties, become suburban. We also know that changes in military bases through BRAC (Base Realignment and Closures) will change Harford and Anne Arundel counties as jobs are moved to Aberdeen Proving Grounds and Fort Meade.

As I am preparing this article I will in successive weeks attend the *Episcopal Urban Caucus*, where I am president, and *Living Stones*, the gathering of American and Canadian mutual ministry dioceses. They may seem like a contradiction, but they are not. What we need in all of our congregations is the deepest engagement with our communities as to their needs: spiritually, economically and socially. We need to be about the most serious work of servant ministry.

As I am in my 12th year of being a bishop I can speak, now, to my experience. But like all of us I am still learning and am grateful for my teachers, the rural and small town churches of the Diocese of Maryland.

The Rt. Rev. John L. Rabb
Bishop Suffragan of Maryland

The Hermitage at St. Anne's

A quiet place for all to reflect, refresh, recharge

BY SHARON TILLMAN

Be still and know that I am God. These words from Psalm 46 set the tone for the diocese's newest "retreat center." The Bishop Claggett Center needn't be concerned, though; this center can accommodate only three guests at time, and only for the purpose of being on self-directed, often silent, retreats. No vestry meetings here.

ONCE A YEAR THE CLERGY OF THE DIOCESE gather for their annual Clergy Conference – a noisy, joyful, time with workshops, camaraderie and catching up with colleagues. The Maryland Episcopal Clergy Association also organizes quiet days and ember days for large groups throughout the year.

But missing from the offering was a place apart where clergy and lay leaders could go on their own time – for themselves. The Hermitage at St. Anne's in Smithsburg fills that void, as a place where, according to the Rev. Elizabeth Webster, the solitary religious who oversees the hermitage, "people can spend time away from all the claims on their time and focus on their relationship with God."

Originally envisioned as a retreat house for clergy of the diocese, the hermitage is open to all who seek a closer relationship with God through quiet, often solitary, activities of prayer, reflection, nature, reading, silence, journaling, etc. Located in rural Washington County near Hagerstown, it is a respite from the day-to-day demands of life.

The small brick house, once St.

Anne's Church rectory, has three bedrooms and a shared bath for visitors, a common room with a library and a chapel on a large private lot.

Webster, who took her vows as a solitary religious last fall after retiring as priest-in-charge from St. George's Church, Mt. Savage, is an associate of Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, N.Y. Bishop John L. Rabb is her bishop visitor. Currently a novice (one in the learning and discovery phase), Webster hopes to take life vows next spring.

But don't call her "sister" or "monk," her vocation is as an anchorite and her ministry in the Benedictine tradition is prayer. Each day she recites the four Daily Offices – Morning Prayer, Noon Prayer, Vespers and Compline – and offers intercessory prayers for those in



The living room offers space to relax, read and gather.

PHOTO: J. HOFFMAN

need. In the monastic tradition "Great Silence" is observed from the end of Compline until after breakfast the next morning.

When Webster decided to retire she said she felt she heard God's call to "come away with me," calling her into a deeper relationship. That call, combined with a need for a small retreat center in the diocese and the availability of the rectory led to the creation of the hermitage.

"Last summer while speaking with a member of the diocesan staff about the idea of a hermitage, the rectory at St. Anne's was suggested as a possible location. The parish was in the process of fixing it up to rent. Their vestry approved the proposal and less than a year later we are open and ready for visitors," Webster said.

"We have struggled for many years. Some have come to me and said they can't understand how we can ever afford to keep three pieces of property going. I tell them have faith, God has a plan for us we just have to wait and see what it is. Well this is God's plan and our mission is to carry it out. I'm glad we have the facility they need because Smithsburg is a nice quiet town with friendly people," said Judy Barnes, St. Anne's Church senior warden.

In her role as the caretaker of the hermitage, Webster provides a ministry of hospitality: welcoming guests, cooking meals, offering guidance for retreats, taking reservations and leading prayers.

"This is a house of prayer where prayer is offered daily and you are inviting people to share in that environment," said Webster's spiritual director of her call to create the hermitage.

While some may choose to spend their retreat time in silence, it is not a requirement. Webster, who doesn't lead guests in retreat, suggests taking walks in the historic town of Smithsburg, exploring the spacious yard and stand of trees, relaxing outside, or curling up with a book from the library in the common room. A chapel offers space for solitary or communal prayer. Guests are welcome for a day, overnight or longer; the average stay is three days. The blessing and dedication of the chapel in the hermitage by Bishop Rabb is scheduled for May 2 at 4 p.m.

The hermitage is a ministry of St. Anne's Church. It is supported by the diocese

(see *Hermitage*, page 22)

The Hermitage at St. Anne's

P.O. Box 303
5 Maple Ave.
Smithsburg, Md. 21783

Located east of Hagerstown in rural Washington County about 1.5 hours from Baltimore
Three guest rooms with shared bath in a two-story brick house
301-824-2477 :: thehermitageatstannes@yahoo.com

Learn about the Holy Cross Monastery: holycrossmonastery.com
Learn about St. Benedict: answers.com/topic/st-benedict-1

Become a Friend of the Hermitage :: Contact Elizabeth Webster to learn more

Taking Mutual Ministry to the ‘Next Level’

BY SHARON TILLMAN

The Mutual Ministry program in Western Maryland received a vote of confidence when the Rev. Theresa Brion was named the diocese’s first full-time Western Maryland missionary. Brion (pronounced Brian) was chosen after an extensive search to replace the Rev. Richard Morley in that role. Morley was called to a church in the Diocese of New Jersey.

AS THE FIRST MISSIONER, Morley worked part time as an advisor and pastor to Mutual Ministry team members throughout Western Maryland and liaison to the diocese while also serving as vicar of St. Peter’s Church, Lonaconing, and rector of St. John’s Church, Frostburg.

“Rick Morley, as our first missionary, linked the Diocese of Maryland with Living Stones – the consortium of mutual ministry dioceses in the United States and Canada, directed our first discernment and formation programs and raised the visibility, and, frankly, the credibility of the program. We have much to thank Rick for initiating and doing so well,” said Bishop John L. Rabb, who instituted the Mutual Ministry program in Maryland.

The Rev. Dr. Chip Lee, rector of the Garrett County churches St. Matthew’s and St. John’s, was the acting missionary and member of the job search team.

A 2009 graduate of Episcopal Divinity School, Brion was recently ordained a transitional deacon in the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia. She has a long-time interest in rural ministry and the empowerment of the baptized. She will work out of St. John’s Church, Frostburg.

While Brion will assist and provide service and direction to the clergy, vestries and congregations in the western region on whatever issues they may face, her focus will be on the implementation of Mutual Ministry. It was this focus that first attracted her to the job.

Brion said she has the opportunity to take Mutual Ministry and the western region, which consists of churches in Allegany and Garrett counties, “to the next level” because she is able to focus on the needs of the people and the region

full time, and the program has already been cultivated and established.

“Each team and church has different needs. My job is to first listen, then guide and support them in their ministry to their congregations,” Brion said.

Part of that support is to offer pastoral care to the team members, many of whom are unpaid volunteers.

Another aspect of her job is to help others discern what they might bring to a Mutual Ministry team for their church and to provide training in various aspects of ministry. Filling open positions at churches and raising awareness and interest in the program for future team members is critical.

Brion has an extensive background in clinical pastoral education, having worked in both hospital and residential facility settings prior to entering seminary.

“Theresa was referred to us through Living Stones and she is in the Ministry Development Collaborative and will receive the Certificate in Ministry Development through the Episcopal Divinity School next year. She received, if you will, a “baptism by fire” in that her first act in the diocese was to be at Living Stones as Maryland presented, as all the member dioceses do, its case. Due to snow it was done through teleconferencing on her part! She was chosen from a group of well qualified persons and we are excited about her ministry,” Bishop Rabb said.



The Rev. Theresa Brion

The Rev. Theresa M. Brion

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The Churches of Western Maryland

- Emmanuel Church, Cumberland
- Church of the Holy Cross, Cumberland
- St. George’s Church, Mt. Savage
- St. James’ Church, Westernport
- St. John’s Church, Deer Park
- St. John’s Church, Frostburg
- St. Matthew’s Parish, Oakland
- St. Peter’s Church, Lonaconing

Mutual Ministry Defined

A term given to the concept of shared ministry and leadership in a congregation. Mutual ministry is an approach to Christian ministry that is lived out of the promises made in baptism. It sees the ministry of the whole congregation as the primary ministry. All members of the congregation are doers of ministry. Deacons and priests serve as resource and support persons to the congregation, and perform the other duties appropriate to their orders. The work of Roland Allen (1868-1947), an English missionary and parish priest, laid the background of mutual ministry. Allen emphasized the training and empowerment of local leadership in the church, the importance of the laity, and the use of voluntary clergy. Leaders in mutual ministry in the Episcopal Church were Wesley Frensdorff, William Gordon, Charles Long, and H. Boone Porter. The dioceses of Nevada and Northern Michigan were forerunners in mutual ministry. The dioceses of Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, and North Dakota used it in certain areas.

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A Church for the Colonists

BY VAL HYMES

A simple brick church sitting under shade trees on Solomons Island Road in Southern Anne Arundel County saw history pass by its doors in Maryland's earliest Colonial days.

THE COLONY HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED in 1634. It included the land now called Lothian. Old records indicate that people began worshipping in the area before then, but the location of the church or "meeting howse" is not known.

Its clergy and vestry kept a steady course through two wars back then and saw its seventh rector elected the first bishop to be consecrated on American soil.

It was not easy. The settlers cleared the land, felled trees to build homes and make furniture, cultivated the ground to grow tobacco – the currency of the time. They also grew Indian corn and wheat, while the women tended herbs in their "dooryard gardens" for medicine and seasonings.

"The men and the boys in the families had to take turns 'a-ranging' – patrolling certain areas for hostile Indians ... Another enemy that attacked these courageous colonists was the scourge of epidemics such as influenza, diphtheria and smallpox. Whole families were wiped out, and many orphans were left in the care of friends or neighbors." – Edith Stansbury Dallam in *St. James' – 1663-1799*

The congregation was mainly made up of "gentleman farmers," tenant farmers and watermen. (Only male landowners were allowed to vote.) They supported their families in the fields or on the Chesapeake Bay, as two stained glass windows now illustrate.

In 1692, St. James' Parish, Old Herring Creeke, was officially established – along with 28 others – by the Maryland General Assembly. In 1695 the vestry ordered a church built on the present site. The Rev. Henry Hall became the first rector. His descendants continue to worship in the parish today. In 1700, a 100-acre glebe was left to the church. (Today, 52 acres remain.) When the 1695



PHOTO: VAL HYMES

The colonists who began worshipping in St. James' Church in Lothian after it was built 1763-1765 faced danger from wars, Indians, plagues and politics.

church became dilapidated in 1763, the vestry ordered that a new church be built. It was finished in 1765 and remains the parish's main worship space today.

The brick building with its double aisles, pew doors, hand-plastered ceiling and two clear glass windows are basically the same as they were when the colonists came to worship there. Some of the silver service used in the Eucharist today dates to the early 1700s.

Today the first Parochial Lending Library established by the Rev. Dr. Thomas Bray in 1698 remains open in the parish hall and includes two of the original books.

The Baptismal bowl bequeathed to the church in 1732 is still in use. In 1747 stocks, a whipping post and two horse racks were built. Members were told they could be whipped if they did not donate their required amounts of tobacco to the church, because it was the official religion of the colony.

In 1792, the seventh rector of St. James', the Rev. Thomas John Claggett, resigned to become the first bishop of Maryland, the first bishop consecrated on American soil. The current rector, the Rev. William H. C. Ticknor, Bishop Claggett's great-great-great-grandson, has served the parish since 1973.

He watched the congregation change as families working in Washington D.C. came to Lothian and St. James' Parish.

Today, farmers and watermen share the pews of the church with members working in the nation's capital, in the powerful circles of commerce, law, politics and government. The predominantly rural nature of the area was infiltrated by "McMansions" and upscale developments as people looked for a more peaceful, rural setting.

Many feel they have found it. Linda Rines, who works for the Department of the Interior, said, "I am very happy to have found such an active and diverse country parish. I have been welcomed and accepted as a new Marylander." She lives in a cottage in a Deale beach community.

What made this rural parish survive the inroads of the 21st century? Ticknor, after 37 years as shepherd of this flock, said, "By God's grace, we were enabled to welcome everyone. We tried our best to accept people where they were." He noted that during the Eucharist, "We say, 'This is the Lord's table and everyone is welcome.'"

He said the parish avoided the "wrangling over the 'new' prayer book and women's ordination, and that "We are now a "welcoming and affirming parish." He said throughout his tenure, the parish leadership "has been willing to work together to meet the needs of the parish and the community."

To accommodate the constant growth, the parish built a two-story educational building, added a third service with a contemporary choir and is creating a labyrinth. "We have opened our doors for outreach ministries to the community and beyond," he said.

Now, 318 years after the establishment of the parish, the members of St. James' are quietly serving the more than 1,000 people who consider this their family parish, as well as the communities around them.

"We ask only the opportunity to welcome, serve and love our neighbors," Ticknor said.

Val Hymes is a regular contributor to Maryland Church News and a members of St. James' Parish, Lothian. valhymes@aol.com.

Glebe: In medieval Europe, an area of land, belonging to a parish, whose revenues contributed towards the parish expenses.
– Wiktionary definition

Rural Ministry Resources

Episcopal Church Rural / Small Community Ministries Office

episcopalchurch.org/smallchurch.htm

Small congregations are often downcast about growth. "We'd like to grow, but no matter how we try we seem to stay about the same size," is a frequent lament. While there is no "magic bullet" to growth for any church, there are some basic actions that create a climate for growth as they begin to change the direction of a congregation from inward to outward, from decline to growth.

The Center for Ministry in Small Churches

sewanee.edu/theology/cmssc

The Center for Ministry in Small Churches (CMSC) was formed to offer clergy and laity a comprehensive and practical cooperative experience in small church ministry and management which will encourage and support them in their work and mission, and equip these saints of the Lord to grow in love and unity with God and one another in Christian community.

Comprehensive resources from the ELCA

elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Ministry/Rural-Ministry

The Rural Ministry Resources and Networking (Rural Desk) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is a ministry committed to sharing the promise of hope for rural people, churches and communities through presence, resources, education, advocacy, and networking.

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[bishop claggett center]

Looking Toward 2010 and Beyond

BY JOE KERNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

When the campus plan for development at the Bishop Claggett Center was adopted in 2000, top priority was given to construction of the new dining, meeting and sleeping facilities. Seven years later we moved into our beautiful new meeting facility, Monocacy Hall, and our flexible intergenerational dining facility, Shenandoah Hall.

THE CRITICAL NEXT STEP on our strategic agenda is the construction of an 80-bed adult lodge; a modern, fully accessible sleeping facility with a variety of single and double rooms and two vestry meeting rooms that can also serve as breakout meeting rooms for larger groups. Claggett's future as a center that is operationally balanced and effective at ministering to adults, especially adults with mobility and accessibility issues, is directly dependent upon construction of the new adult lodge.



As we pursue this worthy strategic objective, we must also remember

that Claggett has 270 acres and 15 existing buildings (the average age of which is over 100 years) that must be maintained. To this end, the Claggett Board of Trustees committed over \$110,000 for capital maintenance projects in 2009, another \$111,200 for 2010, and it is reasonable to expect similar investment each of the next five years. These critical expenditures were made possible by generous gifts through the Bishops' Appeal and directly to the Claggett Center. For this blessing I cannot say "Thank You" enough.



PHOTO: DONNA KERNER

Joe Kerner



Ministry in a Rural Setting

"Come to this place of peace, where you'll find release from all your burdens." This line from a worship song seems to be describing the diocesan camp and conference center in Buckeystown. People of all ages express a spirit of joy, excitement and peace driving up Claggett Lane.

Here are opportunities to enjoy the peace and tranquility of Claggett:

A Day in the Garden – May 1

Learn from a master gardener and plant a garden

Ember Day – May 26

Meditations and time to be with God

Summer Staff Homecoming – May 29

Reunion for summer counselors

Music Retreat – Sept. 17-18

Musicians and choir leaders gather

An Invitation from the New Camp Director

BY THE REV. AMANDA KNOUSE

TIRED OF THE COLD AND SNOW? Well warm up with the thoughts of summer camp! A great staff, fun curriculum and the fresh air of the Monocacy hills guarantee a good time for all this summer at the Bishop Claggett Center. Come experience a week of community building through small groups and the ropes course, strengthen your faith with great music and exciting worship, and build lifelong friendships through square dancing, pool time and hikes. All of these things combine to make one unforgettable experience that the campers will remember for a lifetime.

About the Rev. Amanda Knouse

Amanda is the assistant rector at St. James' Parish, Lothian, where she leads youth and family ministries. She is active in youth leadership in the diocese and served as a chaplain for Claggett High School Week and Winter Jubilee.



Amanda Knouse

In Pennsylvania her camp experience included program specialist at Camp Mount Luther and four years as a worship leader and senior counselor at Krislund Camp. She has worked with youth at the school, parish and diocesan level and has led mission trips, created curriculum, trained staff and served as chaplain.

Amanda loves the outdoors, youth camps and working with people of all ages. Her enthusiasm is contagious and she loves to have fun!

For a complete list of Claggett Summer Camps visit claggettcenter.org/camps.php.

Generosity Abounds

The Claggett Board of Trustees and staff are immensely grateful for the generous donations from individuals, parishes and organizations through the Bishops' Appeal and direct gifts to the Bishop Claggett Center. Efforts to refurbish buildings, create outside areas and plant trees continues. Ministries are flourishing at Claggett!

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 St. Stephen's Church, Severn Parish

Taking Care of Snow Business

THE DOUBLE-WHAMMY SNOW-STORMS


of Feb. 5-6 and 9-10 caused cancellations, delays and the rescheduling of many meetings across the diocese, but one group was able to stay on track thanks to the efforts of Claggett staff and contractors. Cleanup of the 5-foot drifts covering the access road started at 4 p.m. on Feb. 11 and Chrysalis arrived as scheduled Feb. 12 at noon for its meeting. Claggett's equipment could not handle the 5' drifts so a local excavator with a massive 4-wheel drive earth mover was called in to do the heavy lifting and worked continuously until 4 a.m. Three skid loaders arrived the next day at 9 a.m. to dress up the roads and clear the sidewalks and parking lot. They worked until 3:30 p.m.



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[youth ministry]

Youth of Maryland Act Out

THE REV. WES WUBBENHORST, YOUTH MISSIONER

WE ARE VERY EXCITED about this coming mission season. More than 85 youths will be participating in Diocesan Youth Missions in Honduras and Appalachia. This is *acting out!* In a wonderful and fantastic way these young people are stepping out to reach out to others and in return they gain an incredible vista into the work of the church and the faith community in action. There will be four trips to Honduras working with the El Hogar Orphanage and with Ephinia Church in pueblo Villanueva. These are opportunities to cross cultural, language, economic and social boundaries in a faith context. We work, play and worship together sharing God's word and love.

Spring Events & Opportunities

Senior High Provincial Retreat, April 10-11
Come join youth of Province III at the Bishop Claggett Center for a retreat with youth from 13 different dioceses. We will be celebrating time together here in Maryland. Please contact me at the Youth Ministries office. Cost \$100, scholarships available.

Junior High Nightwatch, April 10-11
Come join 100 junior high youth for a great trip to New York City to the world's largest cathedral, St. John the Divine. A great program with brilliant people. Cost \$66, includes bus transportation, Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast.

Diocesan Convention, April 30-May 1
This is a great time for youth to join the diocese in convention. We serve as pages and help the bishops run a smooth and

successful convention. The youth have voice but no vote for the different resolutions coming before convention and learn a great deal about our church and

its unique lay / clergy "legislative" structure. As always we have a fantastic time in fellowship with a lock-in Friday night and breakfast with the bishops on Saturday morning. Cost \$35, includes all meals.



Wes Wubbenhorst

Contact the Youth Missioner:

The Rev. Wes Wubbenhorst
wwubbenhorst@episcopalmaryland.org
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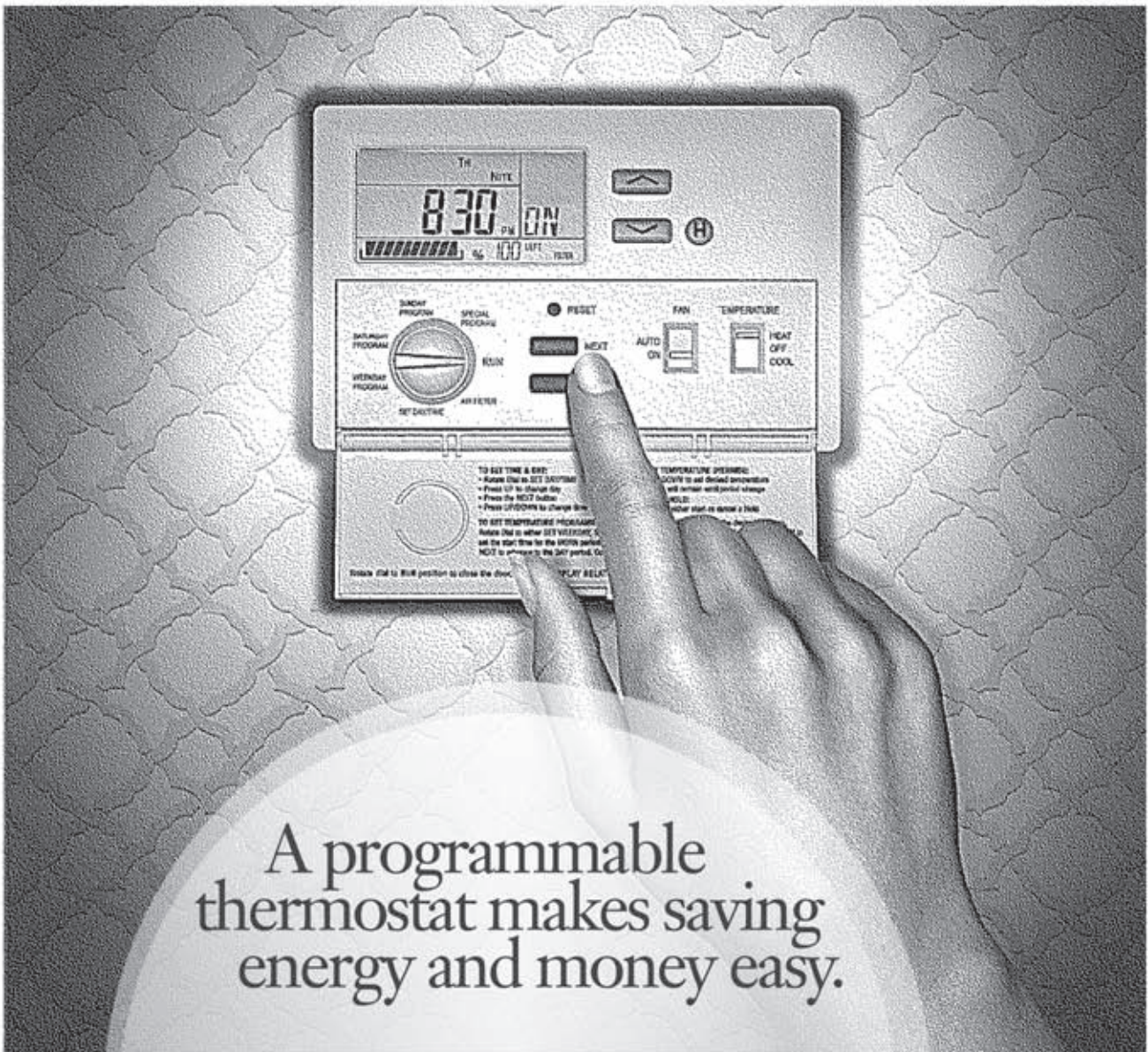


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[bishops' appeal]

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We were deeply moved by the way in which the members of the Diocese of Maryland answered God's call to love their neighbors. The 2009 Bishops' Appeal yielded \$165,931 for vital ministries in our beloved diocese, an astonishing 74-percent increase over the 2008 appeal. The 576 donors listed below answered our request for giving, a 72-percent increase over 2008.

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 Mr. Alan G. Wrobel
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 Ms. Vivienne F. Thompson
 The Rev. Stephanie Yancy and Mr. Joseph Yancy Jr.
 Ms. Martha M. Yeager
 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Yeager
 Mr. L. David Young
 Mr. John W. Young
 Ms. Evelyn R. Zink
 Ms. Nancy W. Zinn
 Mr. and Mrs. David J. Ziobro
 All Hallows' Parish, South River (Davidsonville)
 Holy Trinity Church, Essex
 Church of Christ the King, Baltimore
 Church of the Nativity, Cedarcroft (Baltimore)
 Church of the Redeemer, Baltimore
 Church of the Resurrection, Joppa
 Church of St. Christopher, Linthicum Heights
 Church of the Transfiguration, Braddock Heights
 Parish of Middleham & St. Peter's, Calvert County
 St. Alban's Parish, Glen Burnie
 St. Bartholomew's Church, Baltimore
 St. George's Church, Mt. Savage
 St. James' Church, Lafayette Square (Baltimore)
 St. James' Church, Mount Airy
 St. James' Parish, Monkton
 St. Martin's in-the-Field, Severna Park
 St. Paul's Church, Sharpsburg
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*Member of the Bishops' Crozier Society

The Diocese and the State House – Legislative Priorities for 2010

BY THE REV. MADELEINE BEARD

THE 427TH SESSION of the Maryland General Assembly opened Jan. 13. For 90 days, senators and delegates were scheduled to meet, consider hundreds of bills and pass a budget for the state. The Diocese of Maryland and the rest of the Maryland Interfaith Legislative Committee was in Annapolis attending hearings and testifying.

The primary focus in this budget-challenged year is to keep the safety net intact. We planned to closely watch budget hearings to insure that services for the neediest among us are not the first to be cut. To bring attention to the safety net, as the budget was being finalized, on Dec. 15, MILC held a prayer vigil. Religious leaders from many traditions met and prayed in Lawyers' Mall outside the governor's mansion. We prayed that the governor and his staff would not forget the "hope of the poor" as they wrote the 2010 budget.

Beyond the budget and the usual MILC priorities of protecting the needs of children, providing housing, ensuring safety and justice, and fairness in energy distribution, MILC is looking at some individual bills.

We expected to see legislation introduced that would prohibit landlords from discriminating against potential tenants based on the source of their income when the income comes from child support, disability payments, or veterans' housing subsidies.

We also planned to support legislation enacting a 72-hour protection period before utilities can be cut off for non-payment. And this year we were

hopeful that the Assembly will finally enact protections for residents of mobile home parks when the parks are sold for development. MILC is also watching and testifying against a bill seeking to allow concealed weapons in Maryland if the carrier is licensed to carry concealed weapons by another state.

We continue to express the sense of Diocesan Resolution 2008-3 on slots. We support the petition to challenge the decision of the Anne Arundel County government to allow slots at Arundel Mills. We are following Sen. Mike Miller's idea to expand slots into Prince George's County and will actively oppose it. We are aware of the articles in the press on the expansion of gambling beyond slots to include table games and will closely monitor the Assembly during this and future sessions.

Even with health care legislation pending in Washington, Maryland continues to have bills attempting to make health care available and affordable for all Marylanders. Together with the Diocesan Health Care Task Force, we support



The Rev. Amy Richter, rector of St. Anne's in Annapolis, gave the opening prayer at the Jan. 19 session of the Maryland Senate.

PHOTO: JIM HARTMAN/SEVERN GRAPHICS

this legislation. Working with the Diocesan Environmental Initiative, we encourage enactment of legislation to continue the efforts to clean up the Chesapeake Bay; and we encourage legislators to fully fund the Governor's budget in this area.

What can you do? Join our e-mail list – send your name to beardmcd@verizon.net and follow legislation on the public policy Web page meppn.ang-md.org. Keep in touch with your delegates and senators. Write the governor. And always keep the Assembly and the governor in your prayers and include them in The Prayers of the People each Sunday.

Justice & Peace

The Rev. Madeleine Beard
Diocese Jubilee Officer: jubilee.ang-md.org
Coordinator, MEPPN: meppn.ang-md.org
Treasurer, MILC
Deacon, St. Mark's Church, Highland
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Interfaith Prayer Vigil in Annapolis

Bishop John L. Rabb is seen participating in the Dec. 15 rally held at the Lawyers' Mall in Annapolis. The purpose was to urge Gov. Martin O'Malley and the members of the Maryland General Assembly to continue to provide a "safety net" for the very poor and homeless in our society.

The public policy event was sponsored by the Maryland Interfaith Legislative Committee. Leaders representing Catholic, Islamic, Jewish, Lutheran, Presbyterian and Unitarian faiths also spoke. Food was collected and given to the nearby Lighthouse Shelter. – Don Schroeder, bishops' deputy for public policy.



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[environmental stewardship]

God Is Green

BY ELIZABETH McCARTY

Bishop Sutton has set out on a personal mission to make the Diocese of Maryland and its churches more “green.” In fact, he has been dubbed the “green bishop.” Over the years, many religious leaders have stressed the importance for Christians to have both environmental awareness and responsibility.

SCRIPTURE TELLS US that we have a responsibility to protect and to preserve God’s wonderful creation: “For God so loved the world that He gave his only Son” (*Jn 3:16*). We also pray, “For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord” during the Prayers of the People.

However, Bishop Sutton suggests another, more simple reason – the second Commandment: Love thy neighbor as thyself. It is all encompassing. Many of our wasteful habits have a negative effect on others, especially those in third world countries.

To help guide the diocese toward the goal of making their parishes and communities more environmentally friendly, Bishop Sutton formed the Environmental Steering Committee, comprised of representatives from across the diocese.

In the winter 2009 issue of *Maryland Church News*, Kim Coble, the Bishop’s advisor on the environment, introduced the committee and some of our objectives (*Environment “Core” to Spiritual Vocation*, p. 18). We as a committee have now met several times and are working closely with the Bishop to initiate some great programs for making the diocese more “green.”

A Web site for the ESC, episcopalmaryland.org/environment/, houses updates from around the diocese, including what parishes are doing to become environmentally friendly, resources and much more. We also have plans in the works for this year’s Diocesan Convention, an environmentally focused diocesan-wide event, school outreach, and grants/funding for churches.

One of the major initiatives of this group is to provide churches resources and guidance to begin making some changes of

their own. To that end, we have developed a Green Church pilot program, focusing on assessing churches’ environmental stewardship programs, and working with them to become more “green.” The churches that have been chosen for this pilot program are from diverse locations, backgrounds, sizes and stages of “green” and budgets so that other churches can find one that has similar needs to their own. Their experiences will be used as guides for other churches to follow.

The Environmental Steering Committee recognizes that there are many people across the diocese who would still like to participate in “greening” their churches, and the committee will need additional help in implementing the plans as well. We are currently in the process of creating a network of people interested in helping the committee with these tasks. For more information, please contact Shelley Klinefelter, liaison to the Environmental Steering Committee, at sklinefelter@episcopalmaryland.org.

Not only is Bishop Sutton calling all of us to become better caretakers of God’s creation, but we are being called by God to take care of his creation. We are very excited to be serving you and helping you and your parishes become good stewards of our environment.

Elizabeth McCarty is a member of the Environmental Steering Committee and attends St. Thomas’ Parish, Hancock.

Receive Diocesan News Electronically

For timely information on diocesan news and events visit the home page, episcopalmaryland.org, and sign up to receive the semi-monthly *Parish Mailing*.

Five Episcopal Churches Participating in CSA

Sharing the Fruits of the Earth

The Cathedral of the Incarnation, Sherwood Church and St. John’s Church, Glyndon, are the newest participants in the One Straw Farm Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program this year. One Straw Farm is the largest organic vegetable farm in Maryland, providing fresh locally grown produce to thousands of Maryland families as well as restaurants and grocery stores.

The CSA concept embodies a mutually beneficial relationship between farmers using sustainable horticultural practices and the community. Participants provide funding for the farmer in advance of the growing season in exchange for produce when it’s ready. For each group of 10 participants, One Straw Farm will donate a full member share to be distributed to those in need. Learn more about the CSA program visit onestrawfarm.org, or contact a church near you for specific information about its participation in the CSA program.

Episcopal Church Pick-up Sites:

- Church of the Messiah, Baltimore
410-426-0709, messiahbaltimore.org
- St. Bartholomew’s Church, Baltimore
410-945-7263, stbartholomew.ang-md.org
- St John’s Church, Glyndon
410-833-5300, stjohnsglyndon.org
- The Cathedral of the Incarnation, Baltimore
Paul Beares, spbeares@verizon.net, 410-666-3787
- Sherwood Church, Cockeysville
Lynn A. Shuppel, 410-666-2180

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[Dr. Boender is a parishioner at St.
Peter’s Church, Ellicott City]

Episcopal Diocese of Maryland
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***A day of formation for people of all ages and interests
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When: Saturday,
April 24, 2010
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Where: St. James' Parish,
Monkton
Cost: \$25



Keynote Address:
“Teaching Christian
Doctrine to All Ages”
The Very Rev. Ian Markham, Dean
Virginia Theological Seminary

*Price includes keynote address, three workshops and lunch.
Over 40 workshops from which to choose.*

**Complete list of workshops and registration at
www.ang-md.org/christian_formation
or call the Rev. Stuart Wright at 410.467.1399. Deadline April 16.**

It's All About Good News

BY THE REV. CANON DANIEL WEBSTER

MY FIRST PARISH VISIT as the new canon for evangelism and ministry in this diocese was to Holy Trinity, Churchville. It felt very comfortable driving into a rural setting. It was much like the village 70 miles north of New York City where I was most recently the part-time vicar. It, too, had a New Holland tractor dealer.

The other part-time work I did in New York was congregational development. But as Terry Martin, the former evangelism officer at the Episcopal Church headquarters, says, evangelism and congregational development are dance partners. And to round up that duo to a quartet, add in communications and prayer.

If you want to share your faith you must know how to communicate effectively. Centering prayer is foundational to my faith experience. It grounds me so that I may have the comfort and freedom to talk about Jesus with others.

Evangelism. You mention that word in polite Episcopal circles and sometimes you see people cringe. In some places folks can't bear to hear the word spoken out loud so it is often just described as the "E" word.

Evangelism is nothing more than spreading the gospel—the Good News, which is what evangelism means. So why would we not want to share such good news with others. After all, something attracted us to our church.

Ever since someone dubbed Oral Roberts a televangelist and subsequent TV preachers were called right-wing evangelicals the word has carried some baggage. It has taken its place in the polarized parlance of contemporary vocabulary.

I want to recover the meaning of the word. I want to share the good news of God in Christ Jesus to a world that worships dead end gods.

We were reminded on Ash Wednesday that where your treasure is your heart will be also. Our society treasures wealth, power, position, celebrity, bigger houses and newer cars. Jesus treasures people. His heart was always with people and usually they were the outcasts of his society.

I became an Episcopalian in Salt Lake City. My Roman Catholic Vatican II roots were re-energized by a cathedral church that was not afraid to make a public witness of compassion and welcome to AIDS victims. The Episcopal cathedral was

known, I would later find out, for opposing the death penalty, organizing protests against the proposed roving MX missile system, and consistent help for the hungry and homeless. It was also around the time that former Presiding Bishop Ed Browning proclaimed there would be no outcasts in the Episcopal Church.

That was 20 years ago. My journey has been deep, scary and thrilling. It has taken me to the choir at St. Columba's in Northwest Washington, D.C., to learn of the rich music heritage in my new church. This journey reawakened a college-age interest in ordained ministry. In 13 years since being the first priest ordained by Bishop Carolyn Tanner Irish in Utah, I have served three dioceses as curate, vicar, rector, communications director and congregational developer.

I have gotten to know this church pretty well and to borrow a phrase from a seminary classmate: I'm on fire for this church.

I have seen inquirers become members

and have their lives transformed. They have embraced gospel values of justice, compassion and peace and made them their own.

When we meet you may notice a small, black, wooden cross around my neck. I am an associate of the Order of Holy Cross, an Episcopal/Anglican monastic community of monks based in West Park, N.Y. An associate adopts a rule of life much like the Benedictine rule the brothers follow in their houses in New York, California, Canada and South Africa. A regular silent prayer life is part of my rule. That includes at least one silent retreat each year.

Silence is God's first language, says Thomas Keating, the Trappist monk behind the centering prayer movement. And it is that silent prayer, says Keating, that allows you to develop an ear to hear the cry of the poor. That for me is contemplation in action.

And that brings us back to evangelism. Evangelism is the church in action. Whenever we live out our gospel values we are doing what Jesus in *Matthew 5:16* told us to do: "...let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

The Rev. Canon Daniel Webster is the canon for evangelism and ministry development for the Diocese of Maryland. dwebster@episcopalmaryland.org, 410-467-1399



Institute for Christian & Jewish Studies, Goucher College and American Jewish Committee host a three-part series with visiting Israeli filmmakers Dan and Noit Geva. The films will focus on the diversity and complexity of religious life in Israel and explore the tensions Jews, Muslims and Christians face as their communities adapt to the pressures of co-existence.

March 24, 6:30-8:30 p.m.: *Badal*, directed by Ibtisam Mara'na (Merrick Hall @ Goucher)

April 14, 6:30-8:30 p.m.: Selections from *Jerusalem—Rhythms of a Distant City*, *What I Saw in Hebron*, *Description of a Memory*, and *Take Now Your Son* (directed by Dan and Noit Geva) (Merrick Hall @ Goucher)

May 5, 6:30-8:30 p.m.: *Arna's Children*, directed by Juliano Mer Khamis and Danniell Danniell (Kelly Hall @ Goucher)

ALL FILMS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

To register or to learn more about the program, visit www.icjs.org/events.
Questions? Call 410-494-7161.

Anniversary Celebrations

COMPILED BY SHARON TILLMAN

Christ Church, Columbia 200th Anniversary of "Old Brick"

The 200th anniversary of the construction of "Old Brick" church was commemorated Aug. 21-23. The weekend celebration began with a reception for donors



who were thanked for their generosity by the Old Brick Committee. At Saturday's parish picnic, Howard County Executive Ken Ulman presented the parish with a plaque declaring Aug. 22 "Old Brick Day." Special services in the old church on Sunday employed Morning Prayer from the 1789 Book of Common Prayer. The Rev. Richard Ginnever preached as the church's 1809 rector, the Rev. Oliver Norris. "Old Brick" is on the National Register of Historic Places. It is the oldest operating church in Howard County, and represents the rich heritage of Christ Church spanning a period approaching 300 years. ChristChurchColumbia.org

Epiphany Church, Dulaney Valley 50th Anniversary

Epiphany began as a parish mission of the Church of the Epiphany in Baltimore in 1958. The first worship service was held in the bath



house of a nearby community association on April 24, 1960. Through the years the original group of people who participated has been affectionately known as "the bath house gang." The church has grown significantly at its Pot Spring Road location. A commemorative service will be held April 25 at 10 a.m. followed by a luncheon at the Crowne Plaza, Timonium. epiphany-dv.ang-md.org

Church of the Good Shepherd, Ruxton 100th Anniversary

The Church of the Good Shepherd had its beginnings in the early 1900s as a branch of the Ladies Auxiliary and Sunday School of Trinity Church, Towson. Its members

met in private homes until the erection in 1910 of a church building on Maple Avenue in what is now known as Riderwood. It was then recognized as a parochial mission of Trinity with the name Chapel of the Good Shepherd, and its vestry was appointed by Trinity's rector.

To celebrate, the congregation held a service that started at the site of the original church and concluded at the present location, hosted a bazaar



featuring *Antiques Roadshow* appraiser Michael Flanigan, staged the play *Hobson's Choice* with the Ruxton Players, invited former clergy to preach throughout the year, and planned to conclude with a picnic. goodshepherd.ang-md.org

The Church of the Nativity, Cedarcroft 100th Anniversary

About 100 years ago a church building that had gone into disuse in Garrett County was disassembled, transported and reassembled where it



stands today on the corner of York and Cedarcroft Roads, Baltimore. And now since Feb. 20, 1910, the Church of the Nativity has served the spiritual needs of its members as well as providing significant outreach support to those in need.

To celebrate, the congregation hosted a dinner-dance at the historic Gramercy Mansion in Baltimore. On Feb. 20 Bishop John L. Rabb preached and rededicated the church at a Festival Eucharist. A bull roast is planned for the summer, and a series of centennial concerts, including performances by a handbell choir and string quartet, are being organized. nativitycedarcroft.org/home.htm

Send your church's anniversary to mcn@episcopalmaryland.org. Include a photo of your church and how you are celebrating the occasion.

Campus Ministry Supporters Needed

Touching Students' Lives

BY MENALCUS LANKFORD

Two of our Diocese of Maryland-supported campus ministries in the Baltimore area need an infusion of new board members, lay or clergy. No heavy time commitment is required, just an enthusiasm for campus ministry – for what can be done to make it a vital part in the lives of college students.

Campus ministries at Towson University and UMBC have active part-time chaplains, but need new members for their advisory boards to support the chaplains with program suggestions, general brainstorming, contacts, "how-to" information and minor fund raising.

Typically, the boards have included faculty members and alumni from the institution, parishioners from nearby churches and people who have fond memories of campus ministries from their own student days, but anyone who has empathy for college students and the transitional life phase they are going through might make an excellent board member.

In addition, there is a need for new members of the Higher Education Committee, which oversees campus ministry in general in the diocese. Again, the time commitment is important but minimal.

If you are interested, or just have questions, please email Menalcus Lankford, chair of the diocese's Higher Education Committee, Menalcus@hotmail.com.

Campers Sought for CAG from Parishes

The fifth season of Camp Amazing Grace, sponsored by the Prison Ministry Task Force, will be June 27–July 2 at the Bishop Claggett Center.

Camp officials are asking parish families to identify children 8-10 years old with a parent in prison. All expenses will be covered for a week of arts, crafts, swimming, games, worship and more.

Financial donations are welcome through the Bishops' Appeal at episcopalmaryland.org

— Val Hymes, coordinator, Prison Ministry Task Force, sponsor.
valhymes@aol.com, 410-224-2478.

Clergy Movement

ORDINATIONS

Theresa Brion ordained to the diaconate (transitional)

CLERGY TRANSITIONS

William Reed Bell from the Diocese of Central Gulf Coast

Victor Curtis Hailey from the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia

Allston Jacobs from the Province of the West Indies

David Reamsnyder from the Diocese of Albany

Joseph Stewart-Sicking from the Diocese of Southern Ohio

Megan Stewart-Sicking from the Diocese of Virginia

Daniel Webster from the Diocese of New York

Laura Berger Brecht to the Diocese of San Diego

Art Callahan to the Diocese of Texas

John de Beer to the Diocese of Massachusetts

Melanie Wright to the Diocese of Fort Worth

Julie Nelson has completed her role at St. Martin's-in-the-Field as associate rector

NEW MINISTRY

Janice Gordon-Barnes to interim rector, Copley Parish Gunpowder Hundred, Joppa

Laura Berger Brecht to rector, St. Barnabas Church, Borrego Springs, Calif., Diocese of San Diego

Monique Ellison to vicar, Church of the Resurrection, Baltimore, (as part of a Ministry Team, including

Hector Rodriguez and Van Gardner) from the Diocese of Michigan

Linda Fernandez to interim assistant, St. Thomas' Church, Towson, from Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Taneytown

Timothy Grayson to rector, Church of the Messiah, Baltimore, from assistant rector, St. James' Church, Baltimore

Molly McCarty to interim rector, Christ Church Parish, West River

Megan Stewart-Sicking to rector, Immanuel Church, Glencoe, from Church of the Good Shepherd, Burke, Va.

Rebekah Neumann to rector, South Riding Anglican Church, South Riding, Va., a congregation of the American Anglican Church. She was released from her vows and responsibilities as a priest of the Episcopal Church.

Mark Wastler to priest-in-charge, St. Paul's Church, Sharpsburg

Louis T. Wheeler Jr. to priest-in-charge, Church of St. Michael and All Angels, Baltimore, from St. Mary's Church, Foggy Bottom, Diocese of Washington

Stephanie Yancy to interim rector, Trinity Church, Towson, from interim rector, St. John's Parish, Hagerstown

Health Care as a Matter of Faith The Diocesan Day of Health Care Learning

Saturday, June 5, 10 a.m.– 4 p.m.

The Bishop Claggett Center
3035 Buckeystown Pike, Buckeystown

Sponsored by Diocesan Council and the Health Care Task Force. Keynote address by Matthew Ellis, executive director of National Episcopal Health Ministries and National Episcopal AIDS Coalition.

Breakout sessions will include personal stewardship and healing ministries in the church. Health care reform and the Church's role will be discussed, including new ideas about how individuals and parishes can make a difference. Parishes already involved in faith-based health care ministries are encouraged to bring a display and other information.

About Mr. Ellis

Matthew Ellis is the executive director of National Episcopal Health Ministries and National Episcopal AIDS Coalition. His previous experience includes working as a case worker, supervisor, state administrator, and consultant at Healthy Families Indiana, Indianapolis; an independent contractor focusing on policy development in Fort Wayne, Ind.; and director of sales and training for Datatude, Inc., Fort Wayne.

Ellis is a founding member of the Anglican Health Network and a contributing member of the National Council of Christian Churches Health Task Force, the Hoosier Faith & Health Coalition, and Faithful Reform in Health Care.

For information contact the Ven. Lauren Welch, archdeacon and Health Care Task Force member, lmwelch16@verizon.net.

From the Office of Communications

Introducing... EpiscopalMaryland.org
We added a new web address for the diocesan website: www.episcopalmaryland.org. We feel that this new name more accurately describes who we are and will be easier for our web visitors to understand and remember.

What will happen to ang-md.org?

We are not discontinuing the old ang-md.org address – both addresses “point” to the diocesan homepage.

How does this affect our church websites?

This **will not** affect churches that are using sub-domains of ang-md.org (mychurch.ang-md.org) as a web address. Does your church have a unique web address? This change **will not** affect churches that use a unique web address (mychurch.org). Contact Jason Hoffman in the Communications Office to learn how your church can acquire a unique web address.

What about diocesan staff e-mail addresses?

This **will not** affect ang-md.org e-mail addresses as both addresses point to our server – e-mails **using either address will remain valid**. Replies from diocesan staff members will show their new episcopalmaryland.org addresses.

Do have additional questions?

Contact Jason Hoffman in the Communications Office, jhoffman@episcopalmaryland.org or 410-467-1399.

Unparalleled Tradition of Service.
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A visionary, non-profit, faith-based family of retirement communities and resources. Three decades of unwavering service to older adults. These four hallmarks define EMA's focus of delivering person-centered services and amenities in a way that honors the aging and provides peace of mind with asset protection. Experience our uncompromising commitment to those we serve. Call one of our communities today for a personal consultation.



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[around the diocese]

Diocesan Staff News

BY SHARON TILLMAN

Visit the diocesan staff Web page at episcopalmaryland.org, for complete list of responsibilities.

Christy Crain joins the staff offering post-adoptive search services for the former Church Mission of Help. ccrain@episcopalmaryland.org

Randi Hicks Rowe joins the staff as part-time Resource Center director. She will be in the center on Wednesdays, 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. and either Tuesday or Friday mornings, depending on field education commitments. After May, she'll be in the Resource Center on Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-12 noon, and Wednesdays, 11 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Hicks Rowe is also the director of Christian education at St. Dunstan's Church in McLean, Va. She is studying Christian education at Virginia Theological Seminary and is currently completing field education with the chaplain at the lower school of St. Stephens and St. Agnes. An EFM graduate, Hicks Rowe has Godly Play training, and is very knowledgeable about Christian education resources and how they can be used in parishes. rhicksrowe@episcopalmaryland.org

(Hermitage, cont'd from page 6) through a \$10,000 grant for ministry. The grant pays for one year of utilities, repairs and supplies to ready the house for guests. Donations to the center are welcomed and Webster encourages congregations to support their clergy and lay leaders in retreat. "Once the center gets going and generates money, we hope to offer scholarships, especially for deacons," Webster noted.

Not all visitors to the hermitage need to be in retreat, however. St. Anne's and Webster welcome individuals and groups who want to spend time in repair, too. The house had been empty for two years.

There are plenty of projects that an eager youth group or congregation could take on in a day – weeding, cleaning up the patio and the backyard, or beautifying the entrance. Long-term projects ideal for Eagle Scout candidates or other service organizations are also available.

While the hermitage cannot charge a fee, the suggested donation is \$75 per night, "including meals and a personal blessing before bed," said Webster. Reservation requests can be e-mailed to Webster at thehermitageatstannes@yahoo.com. A web site is under construction and will be linked to the diocesan site under "our diocese."



Province 3 Synod and Ministries Fair

Sunday, April 25 and
Monday, April 26
Holiday Inn
Martinsburg, WV

Teaching Moments in Ministry

The Rev. Robyn Szoke, Facilitator/Presenter
Former staff officer for children's ministries and Christian education for the Episcopal Church, and a founder of "The Children's Charter for the Church."

\$110 includes meals.
Room rates not included.
Call 800-862-6282 for
"Province Rate" hotel
reservations of \$84 /night
through April 5.

**Conference registration,
agenda, workshops and
updates at
www.province3.org**

Ministries Fair Space Free!

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Altar Paraments

Altar Hangings,

Vestments

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Martha Gilbert

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410.715.3854

APR

16
INTEGRITY/BALTIMORE MEETING
7-9 p.m.
Cathedral of the Incarnation
4 E. University Parkway, B'more
Eucharist in the Peace Chapel with
the Rev. Eric Zile, rector of Holy
Trinity Church, Essex, followed by
potluck supper with conversation
and fellowship. All are welcome.
maryh.miller@verizon.net

16
**RECITAL BY THE APPALACHIAN
WIND QUINTET**
7:30 p.m.
St. John's Parish
101 S. Prospect St., Hagerstown
301-733-2560, ext. 108
st.johnshagerstown.org

18
YOUTH INTERFAITH EVENT
2 p.m.
Greater Baltimore Hindu-Jain
Temple
2909 Bloom Rd., Finksburg
Sponsored by the Maryland chap-
ter of United Religions Initiative.
410-242-0983

20
**THE "BLUE MASS" CHORAL
EUCARIST FOR THE POLICE,
FIREFIGHTERS, AND PARAMEDICS**
6:30 p.m.
St. John's in the Village
3009 Greenmount Ave., B'more
Pray for and thank the men and
women who selflessly serve our
community. Reception in the
Parish House. 410-467-4793,
stjohnsinthevillage.org

24
SPRING FLING DINNER DANCE
7-11 p.m.
Gamber Fire Hall
Rt. 32 & Niner Rd., Gamber
Benefits St. Barnabas Church.
Music by the Thom Roland Band,
door prizes, 50/50 raffle, silent
auction, money wheel, cash bar.
\$35 per person. Contact: Linda at
410-489-9718 or the church office
at 410-795-0767.

MAY

1
A DAY IN THE GARDEN
9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Bishop Claggett Center
3035 Buckeystown Pike,
Buckeystown
Learn from a master gardener,
reflect on the spirituality of gar-
dening and plant new gardens.
Lay chaplain Becky Fisher, Church
of the Ascension, Westminster.
\$20. bishopclaggett.org

2
**CONCERT BY THE NEW HANDEL
CHILDREN'S CHOIR OF BALTIMORE**
4 p.m.
St. John's Parish
101 S. Prospect St., Hagerstown
Molly Peterson, director
301-733-2560, ext. 108
st.johnshagerstown.org

7
**SAINT GEORGE'S DAY DINNER
AND DANCE**
7 p.m.
The Garrett - Jacobs Mansion
of the Engineers Club
11 West Mount Vernon Place,
Baltimore
Sponsored by St. John's in the
Village. An elegant evening of fine
food, dancing, and fellowship.
Reservations are required. 410-
467-4793, stjohnsinthevillage.org
for more information.

8
COZY AFTERNOON TEA
12 noon and 3 p.m. seatings
St. Matthias' Church
6400 Belair Rd., Baltimore
Traditional tea, boutique, door
prizes, raffle. \$12. Call Ellen,
410-866-1469, for reservations.
410-426-1002

13
**FESTIVAL CHORAL EUCARIST
FOR THE ASCENSION**
6:30 p.m.
St. John's in the Village
3009 Greenmount Ave., B'more
410-467-4793, stjohnsinthevillage.org

15
**SPRINGFEST: A GREEN
COUNTRY FAIR**
9 a.m.-3 p.m.
St. James' Church
19200 York Rd., Parkton
Community fair with "Green
Zone" environmental fair.
Children's area, band, food,
silent auction, plants, and more.
Vendors needed. 410-357-4473,
stjamesparkton.org.

**SPRING CRAB CAKE &
HAM DINNER**
2-6 p.m.
St. James' Parish
5757 Solomons Island Rd., Lothian
Step back into Colonial times to
eat or carry out for \$20; shop for

plants, baked goods; enjoy chil-
dren's activities, see antique cars,
tour historic church. Wendy, 410-
741-5679

16
**CELEBRATION OF THURGOOD
MARSHALL**
4 p.m.
Cathedral of the Incarnation
4 E. University Parkway, B'more
Preacher: Bishop Eugene Taylor
Sutton, reception will follow.

TRADITIONAL CHORAL EVENSONG
4 p.m.
St. John's in the Village
3009 Greenmount Ave., B'more
410-467-4793, stjohnsinthevillage.org

21
INTEGRITY/BALTIMORE MEETING
7-9 p.m.
Cathedral of the Incarnation
4 E. University Parkway, B'more
Eucharist in the Peace Chapel
with the Rev. Ted Jones, Integrity/
Baltimore board member, followed
by potluck supper with conversa-
tion and fellowship. All are wel-
come. maryh.miller@verizon.net

23
**TRADITIONAL CHORAL
EVENSONG FOR WHITSUNDAY**
4 p.m.
St. John's in the Village
3009 Greenmount Ave., B'more
410-467-4793, stjohnsinthevillage.org

26
EMBER DAY
9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Bishop Claggett Center
3035 Buckeystown Pike,
Buckeystown
Meditations and quiet time to
walk, read, pray and reflect. \$25.
bishopclaggett.org

29
SUMMER STAFF REUNION
9:30 a.m.-Sat. 7 p.m.
Bishop Claggett Center
3035 Buckeystown Pike,
Buckeystown
Homecoming for All Summer Staff
Come home for worship, activities
and sharing. \$15. bishopclaggett.org

30
**TRADITIONAL CHORAL EVEN-
SONG FOR TRINITY SUNDAY**
4 p.m.
St. John's in the Village
3009 Greenmount Ave., B'more
410-467-4793, stjohnsinthevillage.org

5
RUMMAGE SALE
9 a.m.-2 p.m.
All Saints' Church

203 E. Chatsworth Rd.,
Reisterstown
Clothes and linens. 410-833-0700

11 & 12
FLEA MARKET
Fri. 4-8 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
St. Matthias' Church
6400 Belair Rd., Baltimore
Light supper Friday, lunch Satur-
day. 410-426-1002

18
INTEGRITY/BALTIMORE MEETING
7-9 p.m.
Cathedral of the Incarnation
4 E. University Parkway, B'more
Eucharist in the Peace Chapel
with the Rev. Pat Drost, Integrity/
Baltimore chaplain, followed by
potluck supper with conversation
and fellowship. All are welcome.
maryh.miller@verizon.net

27
CHORAL EVENSONG
4 p.m.
Cathedral of Saint John the
Divine, New York City
Featuring the Parish Choir of
St. John's Parish, Hagerstown,
Mark King, director
301-733-2560, ext. 108
st.johnshagerstown.org

JUN



**Diocese of
Maryland Day
at
Camden Yards**

**\$6 Tickets
Fun & Fellowship**

**Orioles
vs.
Nationals**

**Sunday, June 27
1:35 p.m.**

Details at episcopalmaryland.org



[around the diocese]

Thurgood Marshall Now a Celebrated Saint

BY MARY MILLER

For the past five years a multi-parish committee has been working to raise up native son Thurgood Marshall for celebration in the Episcopal Church of his life and witness. Resolutions were submitted to and adopted by our Diocesan Conventions and forwarded to the General Convention. At the same time, similar convention actions and celebrations were happening in the Dioceses of Washington and New York, where Marshall also lived, worshiped and worked.

BY ACTION OF THE 2009 GENERAL CONVENTION in Anaheim last summer, Marshall was accepted for inclusion in the new edition of the Episcopal Church's calendar *Holy Women, Holy Men: Celebrating the Saints* (formerly known as *Lesser Feasts and Fasts*). The date assigned in the church calendar for commemoration of Marshall is May 17, the date in 1954 on which the Supreme Court announced its decision in the case of *Brown v. Board of Education et al*, which began the process of desegregation of public schools.

The assigned Collect and Lessons are those used in the Diocese of Maryland, originally chosen in the Diocese of Washington in collaboration with the Marshall family.

The 2010 celebration of Marshall's life and witness in this diocese will be on

Sunday, May 16, at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. The service of Evening Prayer will begin at 4 p.m. with Bishop Eugene Taylor Sutton preaching. Information about Marshall's life and work will be on display at a reception following the service. This year will be the fourth annual celebration of Marshall in the Diocese of Maryland.

Past activities marking annual celebrations have included a dinner-theater event and a joint parish Vacation Bible School that centered on Marshall's life,



CREDIT: BILL STRONG

and a field trip to the Supreme Court.

Maryland's multiparish committee was formed when members of Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Church of St. Katherine of Alexandria and St. James' Church, Lafayette Square, came together after the passage of the first resolution on Justice Marshall at the 2004 Maryland Convention.

The Marshall family was active in each of the parishes during the Supreme Court justice's growing up years. He was baptized at St. Mary the Virgin (his godparents were two All Saints Sisters of the Poor), confirmed at St. Katherine's and active in the youth group at St. James'.

Other parishes have joined the planning committee and it is hoped that this annual celebration will continue under the auspices of the diocese. Members of the participating parishes are beginning to work on a commemorative quilt with plans to display pieces of it at Diocesan Conventions as it progresses.

Mary Miller is a member of the multi-parish planning committee, maryb.miller@verizon.net.

To learn more about the Episcopal Church's calendar Holy Women, Holy Men: Celebrating the Saints, visit churchpublishing.org