

Good Shepherd

Episcopal Church of Norfolk

To Know Christ and Make Him Known with Joy, Faith and Service

VOL. XV EDITION 4

April 2009

We are an Easter people, born anew in the power of the Resurrection. But what is this Resurrection that we talk about it? Certainly we tell of the raising of Christ, but what does it look like for us today?

Recently at the Shepherd's Corner Workshop with Laura Wilson from the National Association of Episcopal Schools some members of this congregation perhaps unintentionally described what that Life of the Resurrection looks like in this parish. They developed the following list.



*Words that describe who we are as
The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd*

<i>Inclusive of Children</i>	<i>Friendship</i>	<i>Family</i>	<i>Warmth</i>
<i>Organic</i>	<i>Real</i>	<i>Welcoming</i>	<i>Cohesive</i>
<i>Emotional Generosity</i>	<i>Feels like home</i>	<i>Spiritual</i>	<i>Supportive</i>
<i>Great Altar Guild</i>	<i>People</i>	<i>Support</i>	<i>Risk takers</i>
<i>Great music</i>	<i>Not intimidating</i>	<i>Joy-filled</i>	<i>Fun-loving</i>
<i>Older Generation Welcomes Younger</i>			

This is a list we should be proud of as a sign of the Spirit mysteriously moving among us. This is a list we should be wary of as God is not through with us yet. This Holy Week we have an opportunity to pray for new life to come to us, but at great cost. This Easter we have a chance to come together to celebrate God's acts of ongoing transformation in our midst.

Join us.

Faithfully,

Robert A. Davenport
Rector



Around the Parish and Beyond...

What then is CONFIRMATION?

"In the course of their Christian development, those baptized at an early age are expected, when they are ready and have been duly prepared, to make a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism and to receive the laying on of hands of the bishop.

Those baptized as adults...are also expected to make a public affirmation of their faith... and to receive the laying on of hands. (Book of Common Prayer p. 412)

What then is confirmation?

For the maturing, confirmation is a time when the promises made at baptism are taken on for oneself rather than by the parents or Godparents who presented them at first.

For the alienated, confirmation might be the assurance of the connection we have to the communion of saints past and present in the universal Church.

For those from other denominations, confirmation is a way of formally associating with the Episcopal Church throughout the world and through this parish.

For the curious, confirmation classes can serve as a way to learn more about the Christian faith as lived in the Episcopal Church.

For those with parents who stay faithful to how it was for them, confirmation may be the ticket they need to receive communion.

For those confused like me, confirmation might just well be all of the above and more.

We will celebrate confirmation on April the 26th at 10:00 AM with the Rt. Rev Charles Vache welcoming more deeply into this communion and fellowship those presented to him for the laying on of hands.

For youth in between grades 9 and older, confirmation classes have been held at the Parish retreat, and more sessions can be scheduled for early Sunday evenings. For adults who wish to be confirmed (or reaffirmed) and for those who are just curious, classes will be held on Wednesday evenings April 8, 15, 22 from 7 to 8:15 PM. All those being confirmed will have a joint session on Saturday afternoon, April 25th at a time that suits everyone. Please call the Church office if you are interested in participating.

Robert Davenport

LILIES FOR EASTER - There will be envelopes in the pews for giving lilies for memorials for loved ones, or giving in thanksgiving for parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, or friends.. Please fill in the information on the envelope and include your donation for the lilies in the church for Easter day.

After the 10:00 a.m. service on Easter, you can pick up your lily or lilies to take to loved ones, to the sick, or to your home. Thank you in advance for making Easter Day a beautiful celebration of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Around the Parish and Beyond...



From Shore To Shore

In the summer of 2009 the youth of Good Shepherd are invited to participate and live out their gifts in a variety of ways from riverbank to riverbank all over Virginia.

Eastern Shore Work Camp - June 14th - 18th

The journey will begin on the banks of the Chesapeake Bay with a hardworking, hard hammering, and hard hat wearing week of roofing and fun. For the fourth year the youth of Good Shepherd, St Stephen's Episcopal Cathedral and The Mission of the Holy Spirit, Norfolk have spent a week working and playing together on the Eastern Shore. Last year the group replaced the roof of two homes and built a wheelchair ramp. This year is sure to be as fun and exciting as years past. The dates are Sunday, June 14th through Thursday June 18th. Contact Ben Blanchard for more info- cbenjamininva@gmail.com

A SINCERE THANK YOU - Thank you for all of the donations for the folks in Afghanistan. Being able to shop for clothing & shoes would be a luxury for many people around the world. Residents in many rural communities struggle in the long harsh winters of Afghanistan. (NO Wal-mart available). Anne and Katheen Redfern have a sailing friend, David Ostwind, who's in the reserves working for Homeland Security & was called up suddenly last summer.



A Note From the Director of Education Ministries

On Palm Sunday our worship begins with the processional that begins at the entrance to the preschool end of the building. You will notice when you arrive, that just as in Jesus' story, a donkey will be found there and given for use in our parade of praise and thanksgiving. Everyone is encouraged to wave a palm and take part in the parade of

Hosannas! Children will stay for the opening words and the lessons for Palm Sunday, then they will move to the Parish Hall and then join their families for worship at the Peace.

Maundy Thursday is a time to remember the new covenant made with Jesus and his disciples at the Last Supper. Everyone is invited to come to worship and supper remembering Maundy Thursday. Worship Begins with supper at 6:30PM in the Parish Hall and will conclude at the altar in the Sanctuary. This is a chance for fellowship and prayer. Child Care will be provided. Children are also welcomed to the table.

Easter Sunday Celebrations - It wouldn't be the great celebration of the Resurrection without an Easter Egg hunt at the end! It will follow the 10AM service Easter Sunday April 12th.

Youth are invited to sign up with Tricia McKee to help hide eggs beforehand. Any youth wishing to help prepare, and also do some Polish egg art, and reflect during the Easter Vigil on Saturday 2:00-4:00PM are welcome to come to the church and take part. Art can be a great way to focus on the Passion Narrative for our own lives.

Keep the Dates Before You! July 20-25 Vacation Bible School- Registrations for leadership and children will be available at worship beginning on Palm Sunday!



Groups and Committee News

TASK TACKLING TIGERS

Good Shepherd will be hosting another Task Tackling Tigers workday on Saturday, April 18th 8:00am-12:00 noon. I would like a huge turn-out for this month. We will be able to do things outside. Cleaning windows, sweeping, raking, etc. Inside, we have 5 closets/ storerooms to organize and clean and 100 smaller tasks! If you can respond to me beforehand, I will find a task or two for everyone. We have a multitude of jobs for anyone. Come for an hour or stay for all four!! We will be in need of a wide variety of experience and tools. If you think you have a talent, willingness to help, or even motivating others, please put it on the list by the kitchen bulletin board or e-mail Keith Hope at rkhope@cox.net We will be contacting people and arranging teams for different tasks. It will be a good opportunity to meet new people, have some fun and help the church.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

As God's people, we share in one communion and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread and in the prayers. In our parish Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs) facilitate this work by passing the chalice to those receiving the bread and the wine of the Lord's Supper, and read the Prayers of the People.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs) take the sacramental bread and wine each Sunday to those who are physically unable to come to worship. As the service ends, they come forward for a prayer before they are sent out.

Training sessions for all those who are interested and for all those already participating are on the following Tuesdays

March 31st - "An Understanding of the Holy Eucharist" - for both LEMs and LEV's

April 7th - "Some Dos and Don'ts for LEMs"

April 14th - "Some Dos and Don'ts for LEVs"

If you are already participating and wish to continue, we ask that you attend the sessions for your group. If you have been asked to participate and wish to do so, please mark your calendar and join us. If you would wish to share in this ministry of the parish, and have not communicated with anyone about it, please do so now by contacting the Rector at 423-3230.

KNITTING GROUP

The process of knitting allows us to sit and settle our lives, and ponder our Creator with an outlook to something inward yet outward. It is comforting to think that we may be of help in ways that we do not even realize. Come experience this inward outward journey with the Knitting Group on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays evening at 6:30PM of each month. We can even teach if you would like to learn. Contact Lesa Nelson at embarkguru@cox.net or 648-8291.

LAY PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

This committee supports with joy, faith and service, clergy outreach and any kind of support that is needed by any of our parishioners, friends and family members who experience physical, emotional or other life struggles. We strive to be patient, kind and good listeners and understand the confidentiality required in all communications. We ask that anyone who would like to receive support (or request it for a loved one) whether in the form of a phone call, visit or a letter, please contact Kristine Mangus or Robert. This loving group of folks meet the first Wednesday of each month at 4:00PM. All who are interested are welcome!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FUTURE EVENTS...

Special Services scheduled for Holy Week:

Palm Sunday, April 5th - Palm procession

Monday, April 6th through Thursday, April 9th
Eucharist service will be held at 7AM each morning

Thursday, April 9th, Maundy Thursday meal and service starting at 6:30 PM

Good Friday, April 10th, Collect at Noon

Holy Saturday, April 11th, Baptisms at Noon

Easter Sunday, April 12th, Flowering of the Cross

LEM and LEV Training Sessions

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Eastern Shore Work Camp - June 14th - 18th

Vacation Bible School- July 20-25th

Registrations for leadership and children will be available at worship beginning on Palm Sunday!

Clergy and Staff

RECTOR: The Rev. Robert A. Davenport

ASSOCIATE FOR PARISH LIFE: Ben Blanchard (ben@goodshepherdnorfolk.org)

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION MINISTRIES: Patricia Freshney McKee (patricia@goodshepherdnorfolk.org)

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BOOKKEEPER: Sharon Lucas (sharon@goodshepherdnorfolk.org)

SEXTON: Robert Taylor

HOUSEKEEPER: Sascha Grunwalkd

PASTORAL COUNSELOR: Fann Greer, M. Div., Ph.D. 0 Licensed Professional Counselor 757-818-5189

The Vestry

SENIOR WARDEN: Randy Noe

JUNIOR WARDEN: Beth Williams

TREASURER: Steve Cyrus

John Chandler, Rich Crawford, Woody Duffy, Keith Hope, Molly Parsons, Jennifer Sanford, Diana Smelt,
Bob Starck, Frank Thomas, Lelia Graham Webb

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