

the st. james



June/July 2010

Volume 10 Number 6

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**Sunday Schedule**

**8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I**  
**10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II**  
**11:15 AM Coffee & Fellowship**  
**5:30 PM Sudanese Worship**

**June 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**7 p.m.**

**DOK Dessert & Discussion**  
**Called to Serve: Presentation & Discussion (see page 11)**

**June 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**8 a.m. & 10 a.m.**  
**Visitation of Bishop Powell**  
**Baptism & Confirmations**

**July 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**Feast of St. James**  
**Festive Eucharists & Potluck**

**St. James Episcopal Church**  
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**Roanoke, VA 24012**  
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## Rector's Message

Dear Saints of James,

*"A book is the only place in which you can examine a fragile thought without breaking it, or explore an explosive idea without fear it will go off in your face. It is one of the few havens remaining where a man's mind can get both provocation and privacy." ~Edward P. Morgan*

With this quote in mind, I have scheduled a weekly time this summer specifically for reading & journaling and I have a wonderful stack of books that I am eager to explore. Here are some of the books on my shelf.

*Made For Goodness, and Why this makes all the Difference,* by Desmond Tutu & Mpho Tutu

Nobel Peace Prize-winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who lived through South African apartheid and helped to clean up its criminal consequences by chairing the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, could write a grocery list and people would get something out of it. With his daughter Mpho, an Episcopal priest in Washington, D.C., he has written a personal book about his belief in original goodness. Tutu says " We know all too well the cruelties, hurts, and hatreds that poison life on our planet. But my daughter and I have come together to write this book because we know that the catalogue of injuries that we can and do inflict on one another is not the whole story of humanity; not by a long measure. We are indeed made for something more. We are made for goodness."

*Seven Sacred Pauses. Living Mindfully through the Hours of the Day,* by Macrina Wiederkehr

In an attempt to help us live mindfully, Sister Macrina Wiederkehr brings the monastic practice of the Divine Office home to our own hearts. As an antidote to our busy unbalanced lives, this book is an invitation to pause, pray, and live in tune with the Spirit as we mark the seven sacred hours with scripture, poetry, reflections, and personal stories.

*(continued on page 2)*

**St. James Episcopal Church****Clergy:**

The Rev. Susan E. Bentley  
Rector

[seb@rev.net](mailto:seb@rev.net)

The Rev. Dr. Robert T. Copenhaver  
Adjunct Pastoral Associate

**Staff:**

Mrs. Connie Bierly, Secretary  
Mr. Andrew Cochran, Choir Director & Organist  
Mrs. Donna Park & Mr. Marshall Hudson, Sextons

**The Connection:**

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**The St. James Vestry:**

Senior Warden, Donna Frost, 989-3054  
Junior Warden, Tim Buchholtz, 366-5779  
† Clerk, Sam Campbell, 489-4536  
Treasurer, Matt Cordani, 362-3016  
† Ass't. Treasurer, Avis Aheron, 774-0010  
Rec. Treasurer, Bob Bird, 366-0996  
Helen Campbell, 489-4536  
Tricia Champion, 563-9554  
Renee Toth, 334-2060  
Michael Kennedy, 389-1003  
Steve Wiegandt, 966-3108  
(† - Not Vestry members)

**Standing Committees & Chairs**

**Christian Education:** Vacant

**Finance:** Gail Fields, 265-0786

**Liturgy:** Helen Campbell, 489-4536

**Membership:** Pat Ball, 725-8730

**Outreach:** Ray Kasey, 562-1956

**Parish Life:** Tricia Champion, 563-9554

**Pastoral Care:** Donna Frost, 989-3054

**Property:** Tim Buchholtz, 366-5779

**Stewardship:** Avis Aheron, 774-0010

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**Episcopal Church Women:** Pam Reilly  
362-9742

**Daughters of the King:** Dorothy Herndon  
362-0457

***Rector's Message Continued . . .***

*Three Cups of Tea, One Man's Mission to Promote Peace One School at a Time*, by Greg Mortenson & David Oliver Relin

In 1993, a mountaineer named Greg Mortenson drifted into an impoverished Pakistan village in the Karakoram mountains after a failed attempt to climb K2. Moved by the inhabitant's kindness, he promised to return and build a school. *Three Cups of Tea* is the story of that promise and its extraordinary outcome. Over the next decade, Mortenson built not just one but 55 schools – especially for girls-in the formidable terrain that gave birth to the Taliban. His story is both a riveting adventure and a testament to the power of one man's humanitarian spirit.

*The Holy Way: Practices for a Simple Life*, by Paula Huston

Is leading a simple life possible in a world of chaos and complexity? Seeking to find an answer, Paula Houston, a busy forty-something college professor, wife and mother, embarked on a spiritual journey to find a less cluttered kind of life. What she found was that the path of simpler living begins with an internal journey rather than a sudden external shift in lifestyle.

*Traveling With Pomegranates, a Mother-Daughter Story*, by Sue Monk Kidd & Ann Kidd Taylor

In this intimate dual memoir, Sue Monk Kidd and her daughter, Ann Kidd Taylor, offer distinct perspectives as a fifty-something and a twenty-something, each on a quest to redefine herself and to rediscover each other. As they travel together to Greece, Turkey, and France, this mother-daughter journey brings forth each woman's internal struggle and provides fertile terrain for reflection and pondering.

*Conflict and a Christian Life*, by the Rev. Sam Portaro

From the earliest days in recorded history, conflict has been an integral part of life. Although conflict and crisis are painful, they are visible signs of the perpetual work of the church and of society. For those willing to embrace conflict and the work it requires, the result is a celebration of the community that God has given us.

*Same Kind of Different As Me*, By Ron Hall & Denver Moore

This is an inspiring story of faith, fortitude, and friendship, told by a modern day slave, and an international art dealer. One man's story of worldly success and the other's of abject poverty are brought together by the vision and perseverance of a Godly woman. This story is a testimony to the reality that we can make a difference in one another's lives.

*The Seasons of a Restless Heart*, By Debra Farrington

Farrington's unique ability to weave personal stories, spiritual reflection and practical suggestions has produced an invaluable aid to assist anyone living through a life transition such as personal illness, graduation, job loss or change, loss of a love one, divorce or any other crises that befalls us in our everyday lives. She speaks as someone who has lived through these dark nights of the soul and offers hope for those who cannot see their way clearly to believe that yes, there is a tomorrow.

What are you reading this summer? Blessings, SEB+



**St. James Cycle of Prayers**

**In June**, we give thanks for the ministry and service of the Episcopal Church Women and Daughters of the King. We pray that their active membership continues to grow as they enhance their understanding of Christian life, their service to our parish, and their willingness to aid those in need outside the parish.

**In July**, we give thanks for the ministries of all those who contribute to parish life at St. James – the Parish Life Committee members who organize and sponsor our receptions and meals; the members of the parish who host coffee hours and adult suppers;

and the parishioners who provide transportation for others to attend church services and activities. We pray that their ministries will continue to enhance the community life for all who call St. James their parish home.

**News from the Vestry . . .**

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Key Actions by Vestry in the May 17 Meeting

At the May 17<sup>th</sup> Vestry meeting our Vestry:

- Voted unanimously to amend the 2010 budget to include \$500.00 for Christian Education;
- Entered into an agreement with Camp Bethel to rent the St. James bus for the summer camping season;
- Voted unanimously that, when the current CD matures, we will put 10% of the total amount into the general fund to pay toward the Diocesan pledge, with the remainder to go in the Vestry controlled portion of the endowment fund;
- On advice from the Finance Committee, voted unanimously to change the Vestry policy and keep a minimum of \$12,000.00 in the combined savings and checking accounts, with all other funds in accounts that draw better interest;
- Heard a committee report on Sexton's responsibilities and announce that they will submit a revised job description to the Vestry for their action;
- Approved the 2010 audit committee to include Hugh Harnsberger, Ron Taylor, and Lynn Wright;
- Announced that Bishop Powell will visit St. James Church on June 27, and will have one Baptism and three Confirmations – on November 7 Bishop Light (retired) will confirm three other candidates for Confirmation;
- Announced that 14 men and boys attend the latest Men's Breakfast, and ate all the food that was prepared.
- Next meeting will be June 21, at 6:30 PM (no July meeting).



income. The monthly budgeted income amount was \$10,652.24. If we all remember to get our pledges in on time, the deficit for pledged and unpledged income can either be reduced to zero, or better yet exceed the amount budgeted.

**Additional Funding Initiatives:** Whether you use a Kroger gift card from St. James when purchasing your groceries, or celebrate a special occasion by adopting-a-day or participate in the weekly drawing for a special treat, every little bit helps to bring in extra funding. Your generosity in giving back to God and St. James for all that you have received is greatly appreciated.

### Why People Give (Reasons 2-7)

By Eugene Grimm

In last month's Connection, the #1 reason why people give according to Eugene Grimm is *Giving is a grateful response to God*. In this month's Stewardship Corner, reasons 2-7 are explored.

2. *Giving adds meaning to life.* There is nothing bad about feeling good, especially when the good feeling accompanies acts that follow the example of Christ. Giving adds meaning to our lives. Giving is one of the primary joys of living.

In Victor Hugo's great novel *Les Miserables*, Jean Valjean is befriended and given lodging by a bishop. He then returns the bishop's kindness by stealing his candlesticks. The police bring Jean back to the bishop's home for questioning, and when it appears that Jean is headed for jail, the bishop offers a plausible explanation for the missing candlesticks. Jean Valjean is amazed.

When the two are alone, Jean asks, "Why did you do that? You know I am guilty."

The bishop replies, "Life is forgiving."

3. *People like to help people.* Thanksgiving Day spelled tragedy for one family in a small town. A raging fire broke out in their home while they were visiting relatives, and the family returned to find that almost everything they had was lost. The community rallied to help them. Some neighbors provided a place for them to stay until they could rent a home. Others brought clothing, food, and furniture. On Saturday morning, the pastors of the town asked for a special offering to help the

besieged family, and thousands of dollars poured in. Christian people are generous. They want to give to help other people. Churches with high levels of giving therefore tend to say strongly and often, "Our church is helping people. Thanks for making that possible."

4. *People know that giving their money is a spiritual response to God's gift of our salvation.* John Wesley said, "If people were more alive to God, they would be more liberal." Giving liberally is a direct consequence of commitment to Christ. Christian stewardship is a spiritual matter. The writer of First John declares, "We love because [Christ] first loved us" (4:19). We know how to express Christian love because we have first experienced the sacrificial giving love of Jesus Christ. In the same way, we give because Christ first gave to us. As love begets love, so giving begets giving. The offering is one more way to express our appreciation to God for the greatest gift of all—the gift of our redemption.

5. *Someone asks them to give.* One congregation that had just begun its building program decided to conduct an every-member appeal. The committee felt the need to assistance in such a great undertaking, so they hired a firm that specialized in capital-fund drives for churches. Following the firm's advice, they listed the names of members they thought would be able to make substantial contributions. Their program director reminded them that few people are offended when asked for more than they are able to give, so they decided to ask each major donor for a specific amount.

They were elated when one man made the requested gift of \$50,000 without batting an eye. A few weeks later, that man also made a donation of \$1 million to a special community cause. Over lunch with his pastor, he asked how the campaign was going.

During the discussion, he commented, "You know, I was delighted to give the \$50,000 you requested. But with such a major appeal, I was surprised that you didn't ask for more."

Most people have a strong internally programmed desire to say yes when someone asks them to give. But another part of their internal software is equally dependable. People almost never give beyond what is requested. Churches that ask for too little from their members will get what they ask for. When congregations invite their

members to grow in their giving, most members will stretch themselves to meet the challenge.

6. *People give to people they trust.* Who is asking for the money is often as important in obtaining a positive response as the purpose for the money. The most effective stewardship is relational—not functional or organizational or institutional. People give confidently to people they see as worthy, just as they give to causes they believe are worthy. Stewardship must therefore be built on the relationships of respect, trust, and integrity which are already solidly in place in the congregation.

7. *People believe in the mission or ministry to which they give.* People give to their church because they believe in its mission. Conversely, people will not give to anything in which they do not believe. We can provide an excellent reason for giving by stressing the mission we intend to accomplish in service of our Lord. In the Corinthian letters, Paul lifted up a ministry with which everyone could agree. The hungry and the oppressed bring tears to almost every eye. Their church also has a built-in given. People love their church and tend to believe strongly in its mission. That pull becomes especially powerful when the church vividly illustrates the worthy needs they will help to meet.

### **2010 Adopt-A-Day Gifts**

(Gifts shown in bold were received after printing of the April issue of St. James Connection.)

In 2010, you can Adopt-a-Day for \$60.00 or Adopt-a-Half Day for \$30.00. You can celebrate a special occasion or honor a loved one on their special day (birthday, anniversary, retirement, etc.). Forms can be found on the table outside the secretary's office. Forms will also be emailed during the first week of each month and can be filled out and returned to the parish secretary via email. Please consider "adopting" a day or a half day in 2010. With permission, all Adopt-a-Day contributions will be published in the monthly Connection.

January 13 adopted by Cathie Cook in memory of my dad, Bill Cook, on his birthday.

January 27 adopted by Aimee and Hank Bostwick in celebration of Hunter's 16<sup>th</sup> birthday.

January 30 adopted by Mimi and Bob Copenhagen on the occasion of their wedding anniversary. (Gift for the Sabbatical Fund.)

January 30 adopted by Arby and Donna Frost in celebration of our daughter's, Brittany, 20<sup>th</sup> birthday.

January 31 adopted by Ron & Renée Toth in memory of a good friend Bill Wills.

February 15 adopted by "Shar-Shar" in celebration of Madalyn Linkous' 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

February 23 adopted by Jerry and Jean Schaefer in honor of Bob and Ann Bird.

February 28 adopted by Pansy, Merlin and Felix in celebration of Esther Williamson's birthday.

March 17 adopted by Doris and James R. Champion, Sr. in memory of our beloved son, James R. Champion, Jr.

April 4 adopted by Donna Frost in honor of Carl and Pat Ball for their contributions to St. James.

April 19 adopted by the friend "who loves her more" in celebration of Jean Schaefer's birthday.

**April 24 adopted by Dorothy Herndon in celebration of Bud & Karen's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.**

April 26 adopted by Pansy, Merlin and Felix in celebration of Bill Williamson's birthday.

May 10 adopted by Mary and Jerry Hughes in celebration of Cathie Cook's birthday.

**June 20 adopted by Jerry and Jean Schaefer in celebration of 62<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary.**

July 4 by the 7.2 lb. Empress in celebration of an anniversary of Linda Bryant's 39<sup>th</sup> birthday.

August 5 adopted by the Egyptian feline goddess, Bast, (with ecumenism in mind), in celebration Mother Sue's birthday.

August 9 adopted by Cathie Cook in celebration of Jerry Hughes' birthday.

August 15 adopted by Robert and Carol Killinger in celebration of Lonnie Bower's birthday.

August 26 adopted by Frances Stebbins in memory of Charles H. Stebbins on the occasion of his birthday.

October 24 adopted by "that charming, delightful, attractive little dog" in celebration of Mary Hughes' birthday.

December 21 adopted by Emma in celebration of Mary and Jerry Hughes' 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

### From the Legacy Committee . . .

Your will can benefit your family and your church.

### News from the ECW . . .

ECW & Membership Committee Say "Thanks!"

Thanks to everyone who made another ECW/Membership Committee Newcomer Spaghetti Luncheon so enjoyable. The food was delicious and the parish interaction was even better! Thanks to: Maile Armstrong, Pat & Carl Ball, Katherine Beaudoin, Ann Bird, Lonnie Bower, Betsy Briggs, Joyce Brown, Linda Bryant, Tim Buchholtz, Trisha & Jimmy Champion, Dorothy Herndon, Jackie Leonard, Doris Mattox, Pam Reilly, Rose Townsend, Jean Schaefer, Steve Wiegandt, Billy Witz and everyone who purchased tickets and extra jars of "Jackie's wonderful spaghetti sauce". After expenses, we cleared \$176.76 towards the ECW outreach projects.

Please join us for the second annual Ladies Night Out at the Veranda Bistro close to Hollins University. Last year 35 attended, including several gentlemen! All adults are invited June 14 for Happy Hour @ 5:30 pm and Dinner around 6:30 pm. There will be a buffet dinner with a salad, two meat choices and several vegetables. The cost will be about \$15 per person. The details will be included on the sign-up sheet in the parish hall. Alcoholic beverages will be available at an additional cost. So, bring your "significant other" or a friend and let's enjoy a wonderful evening together!

Doris Mattox  
ECW Reporter

### News from the World of Music . . .

2010 Summer Choir Rehearsal Schedule:

- Tuesday May 25 - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday June 1 - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday June 22 - 7:30 pm
- Wednesday July 14 - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday July 27 - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday August 10 - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday August 24 - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday Sept 7 - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday Sept 14 - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday Sept 21 - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday Sept 28 - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday October 5 - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday October 12 - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday October 19 - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday October 26 - 7:30 pm
- Tuesday November 2 - 7:30 pm

### June Birthdays . . .

June 6	Jimmy Champion
June 10	James Kyle
June 11	Joseph Champion
June 12	Marc Rucker
June 12	Brianna Kovac
June 16	Maile Armstrong
June 16	Ron Taylor
June 16	Lily Broadrick
June 17	Harry Wise
June 17	Jaime Ridenour
June 22	Kristen Johnstone
June 22	David Plunkett
June 24	Kate St. Clair
June 25	Doris Mattox
June 28	Renée Toth
June 29	Aaron Eanes
June 29	Arby Frost
June 30	Matthew Bentley
June 30	Peter Hannon



**July Birthdays . . .**

July 1	Ann Bird
July 2	Jessica Wiegandt
July 3	Kelei Dut Kelei
July 4	Linda Bryant
July 5	Billie Roth
July 5	Bob Maxwell
July 6	Felicia Whitcomb
July 12	Katie Rucker
July 13	Donna Repa
July 13	Phillip Hassell
July 14	Hamilton Ridenour
July 14	Rodney Plunkett
July 15	Benjamin Clouser
July 16	Jeanne Counihan
July 19	Helen St. John
July 19	Jasmin Wilhelm
July 19	John Edward Doak
July 22	Sarah Bentley
July 22	Bob Ostrom
July 23	Bill James
July 23	Ryan Fulton
July 23	Madeline Pearson
July 27	Michael Bentley
July 27	Wayne Rattcliff
July 30	Michael Cohen

**June Anniversaries . . .**

June 5	Denise & Randy Smerecki
June 6	Carol & Butch Eanes
June 9	Helen & Sam Campbell
June 13	Ann & Bob Bird
June 16	Mary & Tom Orville
June 17	Jessica & Danny Price
June 20	Beth & Steve Wiegandt
June 20	Jean and Jerry Schaefer
June 25	Mother Sue's ordination as a Deacon
June 26	Krystal and Woody Miller
June 27	Judy & Phil Wheeler

**July Anniversaries . . .**

July 1	Matt & Jennifer Champion Hanson
July 8	Brian & Jeanne Counihan
July 16	Dennis & Barbara Plunkett
July 17	Matt & Katie Cordani
July 17	Ken & Cam Srpan
July 29	Carl & Pat Ball

**Notes of Thanks . . .**

Many thanks for the heartfelt prayers, wonderful cards, and delicious food I received during and after my shoulder surgery. My St. James family is the best ever! I am progressing nicely and continue to be blessed with your love and care. I look forward to being back with you all before long. May God continue to pour his love and grace upon all in our Parish.

Pam Reilly

**Volunteer(s) Needed . . .****Help Wanted**

The Connection News Crew is looking for a volunteer to help once each month. We need someone to pick up the completed newsletters and take them to the post office to be mailed. This would take an hour or less of your time. If you can help, please contact Esther Williamson at 366-3177 or [momoh1@cox.net](mailto:momoh1@cox.net)

**Altar Flowers**

There still a few Sundays left to donate altar flowers in 2010. Flowers each week are \$20.00, and checks can be made out to St. James Episcopal Church, with a memo of "flower fund" and given to Lynn Wright, or put in the offering plate. If you know what dedication you would like for the flowers, you can give that to Lynn with your money. If you are not sure at this time, then you will need to leave that information at the Church office prior to the Sunday you will be giving flowers.

If you cannot remember if you have paid for flowers you have donated, please contact Lynn Wright, 992-5615.

**Bus Update**

By Carl Ball

At the Annual Parish Meeting last Fall, the Finance Committee brought up the question of selling the bus as one means of closing the 2010 budget deficit. The Vestry voted to continue operation of the bus through 2010 but initiated a bus review with a goal to review the costs and to develop a proposal to support continued operation of the bus.

This precipitated a thorough review of the bus policy, including who has been using the bus and the costs incurred annually to maintain the bus. While there have been significant expenses in making continued repairs to the bus, since its original purchase, many of the costs were considered to be on-going repairs to a bus bought at a bargain price and in need of repair. The good news is that these costs have been decreasing. Last year, for example, monies contributed by outside users exceeded the bus maintenance costs for the year - but did not contribute equitably towards the bus replacement fund. To ensure equity in the policy, the Vestry subsequently made a thorough review of the bus policy and re-affirmed the policy - except for extending the driver renewal requirements from 2 years to 3 years. Re-affirmation of the bus policy, by the Vestry, means that we will continue to permit qualifying outside users, as defined in the policy, to use our bus but that they will be required to contribute more equitably towards the overall cost of the bus, including the bus replacement fund. This is considered by the Vestry to be a win-win solution for ourselves and others to support continued use of the bus by all parties.

### **NOTICE TO ALL BUS DRIVERS**

From Carl Ball and Maile Armstrong

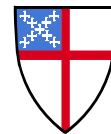
The Vestry recently reviewed the bus policy and voted to extend the driver renewal requirement from every 2 years to every 3 years. This means that all current bus drivers, who last qualified more than 3 years ago, need to re-qualify; i.e. submit a new driver's application and a new DMV record of their driving history. The amount of retraining required will be based on the individual's bus experience. A grace period is currently in effect to permit currently qualified bus drivers to continue driving while they renew their qualifications. Also, your driver's license information is part of your record and if you renew your driver's license, you need to let us know your new driver's license expiration date. Carl Ball and Maile Armstrong are now sharing the bus responsibilities with Carl overseeing the office records including, but not limited to, all driver applications and bus reservations, while Maile will concentrate on driver training and bus maintenance.

### **NAVE AC ON SUNDAYS**

By Carl Ball

The new, larger AC system that we installed in the Nave last summer seems to be working well. However, we still can't maintain a constant temperature in the NAVE when we have a well attended 10:00 AM service and the sun rises on the east wall. Nevertheless, due to the larger AC unit and the increased air flow, parishioners generally report being much more "comfortable" than before. However, we have also gotten some complaints from both 8:00 and 10:00 parishioners that it is too cold. The challenge is in finding a happy balance between the starting temperature settings for the two services and the ending temperature for the 10:00 AM service. As we continue to look for that "happy balance", we will be experimenting with the starting temperatures and monitoring the actual ending temperature following the 10:00 AM service. Let me know how we are doing.

Note that the temperature throughout the NAVE is **not uniform**. If you are uncomfortable, try sitting in a different part of the NAVE. Due to a lack of insulation and the locations of the supply and the return registers, it is cooler in the front of the church and warmer in the back of the church, especially near the outer walls.



### **ANSWERING A CALL TO MINISTRY**

By Butch Eanes

*All baptized persons are called to minister in Christ's name, to identify their gifts with the help of the Church and to serve Christ's mission at all times and in all places. **Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church - Title III, Canon 1, Sec. 1(a)***

Last month I gave you a very brief look at the Diaconate and the things deacons do without being very specific. We'll get into the specifics in a future issue, but first I want to speak to you about ministry. The Constitution and Canons of our church are pretty specific – we are **all** called to ministry be it as lay persons or as, bishops, priests, or deacons.

There is a little book titled *Listening Hearts, Discerning Call in Community* that has this to say “Ministry is the active response to God’s call. Christian ministry is more than simply doing good. Rather, it is something Christ does in us and through us and that we do in and through Christ...A minister is...one who waits, ready to respond as called.”

What about this business of “call”? We hear the term used a lot, “so and so was called to a ministry of...” but what about that “call”. I have known a few people that just knew what they were called to do, it was just very clear to them. I think for the rest of us that call is not always as clear.

Back in the seventies there was a Burt Reynolds movie, *The End*, about a guy named Sonny (Burt Reynolds) who’s just found out that he only has a few months to live. He is of course devastated by this news and as he is driving home he goes by a church, stops and goes in. Inside he meets a very young priest named Dave played by Robbie Benson. In their conversation Sonny remarks how young Dave is. Dave replies “I made the decision to serve God right after I got out of high school.” .Sonny says “that’s really nice, you got the call?”. Dave answers “it was more like a whisper, nothing like you see in the movies!”

I think for many of us, it is a whisper that we know is there but it is so soft we choose not to listen or it gets drowned out by all the noise in our lives. But when we do decide to be quiet and listen to that whisper we can see the work of the Holy Spirit. If we start to look at the events of our lives in relation to that call we have now chosen to deal with, the pieces of the puzzle start to fit and God’s will for us starts to become clear. Simple right? Usually not. Generally, discerning that call takes a lot of prayer and meditation and often help from other Christians.

I speak to you about call in relation to my diaconal journey because I have known this whisper since I was a young boy but it has taken 50 years to sort things out, with a couple false starts, to deal with what God was calling me to do. I discussed this with Mother Sue and on Ash Wednesday 2008 we met to initiate the process of dealing with that call which had become more and more clear to me.

The next step was to form a discernment committee made up of five Saints of James, John

Whitcomb, Mary Davis, Avis Aheron, Esther Williamson and Sam Campbell. In late April 2008 we began meeting once a month for the next six months following guidelines from the diocese and the Commission on Ministry. The Ordination Manual of our diocese describes their task as being “...open to the movement of God’s Spirit and to respond faithfully to the Spirit’s leadership.” Although this process was primarily to examine what I perceived to be my own call to the ministry of a vocational deacon, it also provided the members an opportunity to examine their own call to ministry. I think all of us in that group will feel forever bound to one another in Christ’s church as a result of that experience.

At the end of their work the discernment committee recommended to the rector and the vestry that I be nominated for postulancy.

Next time we’ll talk about postulancy and the process of formation.

Are you listening to your little whisper?

God bless.

### EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

Education for Ministry (EFM) is an Episcopal theological education program of the School of Theology of the University of the South in Sewanee, TN. This program has spread throughout the United States and is international, as EFM groups seek to (1) teach how to think theologically, (2) grow in knowledge of the Holy Scripture and of our Christian heritage, (3) deepen the faith of individuals, (4) build community and strengthen the Body of Christ. Participants commit one year at a time to meet regularly in seminar sessions led by a trained mentor. Completion of the program takes four years, during which time participants study the Bible, church history, theology and ethics.

What does EFM do for the Church? Graduates of EFM fulfill many ministries and bring to the church a laity better prepared to make decisions and fulfill the Great Commission – to bring Christ to the world – in an effective and loving way. EFM’s 24,000 plus graduates have become a source of informed, committed, and prepared leadership for the Church.

Each seminar group of six to twelve students is led by a mentor. The St. James group meets on Tuesday evenings, September to June to reflect theologically, discuss the materials they have read, and to worship together. Students follow a lesson and a study guide which are read each week. Continuing Education credit is given. EFM has been offered at St. James for 6 years; Helen & Sam Campbell, Jo Schultz, Susan Tolliver, Bill & Esther Williamson and Donna Frost have completed the 4 year study. Avis Aheron, Tim Buchholtz, Nan Mallen, Sharon Miller, and Ron Taylor are finishing their 1<sup>st</sup> and 2nd years.

We are seeking new class members for the Fall. If you are interested in EFM, talk to any of the program members and contact the Rector who is the mentor for the group in 2010-2011.

Participants must be able to commit to coming each week, and the cost is \$350.00/year. Scholarships and payment plans are available.

**FROM RESOLUTION TO REALITY:**  
**Called to Serve and the Episcopal Church's**  
**2010 National Conference on Domestic Poverty**  
**in Newark, New Jersey**

By: Sam Campbell  
 President of the Roanoke Convocation  
 and Director of Helping Hands of  
 Franklin County

And

Hank Bostwick  
 Pro Bono Attorney  
 The Legal Aid Society of Roanoke Valley

On April 27, 2010, we traveled together at the suggestion of our rector to Newark, New Jersey, for the conference "*Called to Serve: The Episcopal Church Responds to Domestic Poverty.*" The co-hosted event—a first for the sponsoring organizations—was called in response to the passage of Resolution A155 at the Church's 2009 General Convention, which pledged "[to] Establish a Program for the Alleviation of Domestic Poverty" within the Episcopal Church. Three national groups dedicated to ending domestic poverty in the United States—Episcopal Community Services in America, Jubilee Ministry, and National Episcopal Health

Ministries—sponsored the three days of seminars and workshops.

Presiding Bishop Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori launched the conference by reminding us of the call from Micah in the Hebrew Scriptures: "He has shown you, O Man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?" Our abundance within the Episcopal Church and the larger society is meant to be shared, argued Schori, and the fundamental question facing the attendees at the national conference would be, in her words, figuring out "how we can all participate in America's abundance." To prioritize a seemingly endless list of challenges, Schori focused the efforts to make Resolution A155 a reality into four core areas of concern: ensuring access to healthy food, maintaining a reliable and clean water supply, increasing housing stability and creating meaningful employment. Schori's opening remarks sounded an overarching theme for the conference, namely, that in an era of recession, mounting debt and shrinking public budgets, the Church will—and must—assume a greater share of the responsibility to care for the poor in the absence or resistance of government. As one conference speaker put it: "There just isn't enough public money to go around anymore."

The Presiding Bishop admonished the Episcopal Church to engage in "boundary-crossing" by changing the ways we talk about poverty and domestic policy. To that end, the conference organizers scheduled two speakers and analysts on the cutting edge of public policy research. Chuck Fluharty—graduate of Harvard Divinity School and president of the Rural Policy Research Institute, the only national policy institute solely dedicated to assessing the rural impacts of public policy—offered new ways to understand the urban-rural dichotomy in America's national conversation about poverty. Chief among his assertions is that the terms "urban" and "rural" as we have defined them are no longer useful in a conversation about how to address domestic poverty.

For example, 51% of "rural" people actually live in metropolitan areas, more aptly described as suburban or *micropolitan*. The Roanoke Valley, and indeed much of our Diocese, with its concentration of homes, neighborhoods and small communities in areas which were once primarily agricultural around an expanding urban core, is a prime example of a so-called micropolitan region where the distinctions between urban and rural breakdown. Domestic poverty studies in the recent

past have focused almost exclusively on the distinctions between rural and urban poverty. Instead, Fluharty concludes, micropolitan areas should be part of public policy considerations as micropolitan cities have the highest poverty rates among geographical areas in the United States and are plagued by “pervasive poverty.” Churches in America’s micropolitan regions, like southwest Virginia, should lead the conversation, Fluharty would contend, about changing how we create public poverty policy for a changing rural landscape.

Kristen Lewis of the American Human Development Project—“a nonpartisan, non-profit initiative established to introduce to the United States a well-honed . . . tool for measuring human well-being”—shared the results of the Project’s recent study, a first-ever human development report for a wealthy, developed nation: *Measure of America*. The results of the Project’s initial study, which assesses human development in health, education and income, are available at [measureofamerica.org](http://measureofamerica.org). According to Lewis, the Project’s study has given statistical proof for what many public policy experts have been clamoring about for decades: that income and educational levels and longevity can differ dramatically in areas less than a few miles or even blocks away in some areas of the United States. Despite considerable geographical proximity to areas of relative wealth and affluence, many of America’s population centers have pockets of disturbingly high rates of infant mortality, wage disparities and educational opportunities—an injustice that people of faith are called to address.

Break out sessions during *Called to Serve* focused on devising practical ways for parishes, diocese, and provinces to develop locally-focused, asset-based efforts to address the core areas of concern introduced by the Presiding Bishop at the start of the conference. Finding sustainable sources of funds for local human development projects, organizing local networks of readily accessible resources, and even nurturing the spirit of dedicated-but-exhausted servant-leaders (“Care for Yourself as You Care for Others,” as one workshop was aptly titled) were among the topics for the sessions. Conference leaders also planned opportunities for attendees to find scriptural support for the Episcopal Church’s domestic poverty focus. Each morning of the conference began with guided Bible study and small group discussions which gave us an opportunity to share ways to live into our Baptismal Covenant—“Will you strive for justice

and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?”—and the Gospel’s call to love one’s neighbor.

A panel of clergy, lay leaders and activists from among indigenous groups within the Episcopal Church, like Sarah Eagle Heart, emphasized the need for the national Church to remember the language in Resolution A155 specifically calling for programs which “emerge from the visions and voices of the local Native People’s communities.” During the conference, a press release was issued by the Episcopal Church announcing a partnership between the Episcopal Church and White Bison, Inc.—an organization dedicated to the service of indigenous people in the United States—to “develop a culturally oriented strategy for addressing domestic poverty within Native American communities.”

*Called to Serve* was a time set aside to discuss the realities of domestic poverty and the possibilities for the future, and we have so much more to share. Please join us at St. James Episcopal Church to talk about some of the practical ways our parishes and diocese can help make Resolution A155 a reality. **We will meet in the Parish Hall of St. James Episcopal Church in northwest Roanoke on Thursday, June 24, 2010, at 7:00 PM, for refreshment and a guided discussion.**

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### Celebrating the 'circle' of ministries

By Bonnie Anderson

*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*

—1 Corinthians 12:4-7

“Who are the ministers of the church?” asks the catechism in The Book of Common Prayer.

During May through August, seven bishops have been or will be ordained and consecrated in the Episcopal Church, two more bishops will be elected, and the consent process for three bishops will be underway. Two other consent processes, shortly to be underway, have not begun as of this writing. Thus, in the next few months, the church no doubt will publicly affirm changes in the ministries of 14 people.

The process of call, discernment and affirmation is experienced by the laos, the people of God, as we continually listen for God's invitation to move toward using our gifts in new ways for God's reconciling work in the world.

The orders of ministry (lay, diaconal, presbyteral and episcopal) make concrete and incarnate the call from God that is the basis of ministry. The catechism tells us that the "ministers of the church are the laity, bishops, priests and deacons." It goes on to outline the specific ministries of each order. As is the case with these 14 people who presumably will be ordained and consecrated into a new ministry, most of us also have experienced changes in our ministry during our lifetime. We discover formerly unrecognized gifts of the spirit (charism) within us and within each other. The knowledge and use of our unique charisms may call us into a new incarnation of our ministry. Some of these new incarnations may call us into another order of ministry, and some of these new understandings of God's actions in our life may reconfirm and expand our call to our current ministry as a lay person, priest, deacon or bishop.

It has become fairly commonplace in the Episcopal Church to think of the ministries of laity, priests, deacons and bishops in a hierarchical way. A visual description of the hierarchy might be indicated by a pyramid, with the order having the smallest number of members — bishops — at the top. The clergy — both priests and deacons — fill the hierarchical pyramid as it widens.

The laity support the pyramid as the numerically largest base. This model implies a certain erroneous order of importance and power in God's church. We are "hierarchical" in the way human communities inevitably are. But, true to our teaching, tradition and polity as God's Episcopal Church, laity, bishops, priests and deacons are called to live their daily ministries in a way that can be visually described as a circle where God's gifts and God's vulnerable servanthood mark and guide each of our lives and our ministries.

Our baptismal vows call us all to the Christian life. Our individual charisms — the gifts we have been given — enable us to serve God in the world.

The holy people of God are followers of a vulnerable, servant God. In God, true power turns out to be the opposite of what the world considers to be power. Real power is subversive of not only those who claim power, but also the very concept of power itself.

As we are reminded by St. Paul, in a practice of equal exchange and honor, we draw upon the

unique charism of each individual, whether God calls us as lay, diaconal, presbyteral or episcopal.

Each gift brought to the service of Christ is important, and God's call to each person is equally worthy to be affirmed, used and supported by God's church.

Through God's call, the church is created and, as Harvey Guthrie, retired dean of Episcopal Divinity School, says, "finds concrete expression in those designated (ordained) in accord with tradition being needed to convene the sacramental community — and in the lay order being needed for that convening to take place."

During our lifetime, God calls us in new and different ways to do God's reconciling work in the world. Some of us will continue to be called into the ministry of the laity, according to the gifts we have been given. Some of us will be called to serve as priests and deacons, according to the gifts we have been given. Some of us will be called to serve as bishops — again, according to the gifts we have been given.

In Jesus the hierarchy becomes a circle, rooted in him and open to all Christians.  
--Canon Bonnie Anderson is president of the House of Deputies of General Convention.

### Just for fun . . .

From Maile Armstrong

#### Parish Staff Job Descriptions

**Rector:** Able to leap tall buildings in a single bound. More powerful than a locomotive. Faster than a speeding bullet. Walks on water. Makes policy with God.

**Assistant To The Rector:** Able to leap short buildings in a single bound. As powerful as a switch engine. Just as fast as a speeding bullet. Walks on water if the sea is calm. Talks with God.

**Organist:** Leaps short buildings with a running start. Almost as powerful as a switch engine. Faster than a speeding BB. Walks on water if he knows where the stumps are. Is occasionally addressed by God.

**Youth Director:** Runs into small buildings. Recognizes locomotives 2 out of 3 times. Uses a squirt gun. Knows how to use the water fountain. Mumbles to himself.

**Parish Secretary:** Lifts buildings to walk under them. Kicks locomotives off the track. Catches speeding bullets in her teeth. Freezes water with a single glance. When God speaks she says, "Please hold."

## SERVER SCHEDULE FOR JUNE

**Jun 6****8 AM** Lector – Susan Tolliver, Chaliceist – Tim Buchholtz

<b>10 AM</b>	Crucifer 1	Rachel Ostrom	Ushers	Ray & Lawton Kasey
	Crucifer 2	William Ostrom	Coffee	Nan Mallen, Sharon Miller
	Acolyte	Dustin Hassell	Nursery	Shannon Flynt, Katie Rucker
	T Bearer	Felix Counihan	Tellers	Ron Toth, Michael Kennedy
		Taylor Shonhor	Altar Guild	Laura Anderson, Lonnie Bower, Jean Schaefer, Esther Williamson
	Chaliceist	Matt Cordani		
	Lector 1	Avis Aheron		
	Lector 2	Betsy Briggs		
	Prayers	Donna Frost		

**Jun 13****8 AM** Lector – Susan Tolliver, Chaliceist – Tim Buchholtz

<b>10 AM</b>	Crucifer 1	Ryan Kovac	Ushers	Bill & Elizabeth Witz
	Crucifer 2	-----	Coffee	Cohen Family
	Acolyte	Molly Hassell	Nursery	Matt & Katie Cordani
	T Bearer	-----	Tellers	Arby Frost, Kristen Johnstone
		-----	Altar Guild	Helen Campbell, Boots Ingram, Odell James, Kate Perry
	Chaliceist	Kevin Shepherd		
	Lector 1	Jackie Leonard		
	Lector 2	Sharon Capps		
	Prayers	Lynn Wright		

**Jun 20****8 AM** Lector Tim Buchholtz, Chaliceist – Jo Schultz

<b>10 AM</b>	Crucifer 1	Aaron Taylor	Ushers	Michael & Matthew Bentley
	Crucifer 2	-----	Coffee	Lonnie Bower, Joyce Brown, Jean Schaefer
	Acolyte	Kirin Johnstone	Nursery	Hank & Aimee Bostwick
	T Bearer	-----	Tellers	Larry Mattox, Jackie Leonard
		-----	Altar Guild	Betsy Briggs, Lisa Gardner, Jo Schultz, Susan Tolliver, Kathryn Tully
	Chaliceist	Lawton Kasey		
	Lector 1	Helen Campbell		
	Lector 2	Kate Perry		
	Prayers	Michael Bentley		

**Jun 27 Bishop's Visit****8 AM** Lector – Tom Orville, Chaliceist – Jo Scultz

<b>10 AM</b>	Crucifer 1	Dustin Hassell	Ushers	Ron & Renee Toth
	Crucifer 2	-----	Coffee	Parish Life
	Acolyte	Ryan Kovac	Nursery	Ann Bird, Elizabeth Witz
	T Bearer	Molly Hassell	Tellers	Steve Wiegandt, Maile Armstrong
		Sarah Perry	Altar Guild	Katie Cordani, Lawton Kasey, Pam Reilly
	Chaliceist	Avis Aheron		
	Lector 1	Ron Taylor		
	Lector 2	Sam Campbell		
	Prayers	Maile Armstrong		

**DOK Gift Bag Preparation: Esther Williamson, Sandy Maxwell****Note:** If you can't meet your scheduled time please find a substitute and let the Office know.

## SERVER SCHEDULE FOR JULY

## Jul 4

8 AM Lector – Susan Tolliver, Chaliceist – Tim Buchholtz

10 AM	Crucifer 1	Matthew Bentley	Ushers	Carl Ball, Larry Mattox
	Crucifer 2	-----	Coffee	Tricia Champion, Lawton Kasey
	Acolyte	Ashley Nelson	Nursery	Bob & Sara Ostrom
	T Bearer	-----	Tellers	Ron Toth, Michael Kennedy
		-----	Altar Guild	Linda Bryant, Sharon Miller, Missy Shepherd
	Chaliceist	Matt Cordani		
	Lector 1	Sandy Maxwell		
	Lector 2	Alex Bentley		
	Prayers	Betsy Briggs		

## Jul 11

8 AM Lector – Susan Tolliver, Chaliceist – Tim Buchholtz

10 AM	Crucifer 1	Hunter Hart	Ushers	Michael Kennedy, Jackie Leonard
	Crucifer 2	-----	Coffee	Boots Ingram, Odell James, Pam Reilly
	Acolyte	Sarah Perry	Nursery	Julia Felts, Lisa Gardner, Butch Johnstone
	T Bearer	-----	Tellers	Arby Frost, Kristen Johnstone
		-----	Altar Guild	Laura Anderson, Lonnie Bower, Jean Schaefer
	Chaliceist	TBA		Esther Williamson
	Lector 1	Maile Armstrong		
	Lector 2	Kristen Johnstone		
	Prayers	Avis Aheron		

## Jul 18

8 AM Lector Tim Buchholtz, Chaliceist – Jo Schultz

10 AM	Crucifer 1	Dustin Hassell	Ushers	Ray & Lawton Kasey
	Crucifer 2	-----	Coffee	Carl & Pat Ball
	Acolyte	Marjorie Price	Nursery	Shannon Flynt, Katie Rucker
	T Bearer	-----	Tellers	Larry Mattox, Jackie Leonard
		-----	Altar Guild	Helen Campbell, Boots Ingram, Odell James, Kate Perry
	Chaliceist	Avis Aheron		
	Lector 1	Bob Ostrom		
	Lector 2	Donna Frost		
	Prayers	Sharon Capps		

## Jul 25 St. James Day

8 AM Lector – Tom Orville, Chaliceist – Jo Schultz

10 AM	Crucifer 1	Ryan Kovac	Ushers	Bill & Elizabeth Witz
	Crucifer 2	-----	Coffee	Parish Life
	Acolyte	Jessica Wiegandt	Nursery	Matt & Katie Cordani
	T Bearer	Ian Johnstone	Tellers	Steve Wiegandt, Maile Armstrong
		Kirin Johnstone	Altar Guild	Betsy Briggs, Lisa Gardner, Jo Schultz, Susan Tolliver, Kathryn Tully
	Chaliceist	Lawton Kasey		
	Lector 1	Lynn Wright		
	Lector 2	Michael Bentley		
	Prayers	Jackie Leonard		

## Aug 1

8 AM Lector – Susan Tolliver, Chaliceist – Tim Buchholtz

10 AM	Crucifer 1	Rachel Ostrom	Ushers	Chuck & Cathy Cohen
	Crucifer 2	-----	Coffee	Larry & Doris Mattox, Maile Armstrong
	Acolyte	Josie Wiegandt	Nursery	Hank & Aimee Bostwick
	T Bearer	-----	Tellers	Ron Toth, Michael Kennedy
		-----	Altar Guild	Katie Cordani, Lawton Kasey, Pam Reilly
	Chaliceist	Matt Cordani		
	Lector 1	Betsy Briggs		
	Lector 2	Laura Anderson		
	Prayers	Helen Campbell		

DOK Gift Bag Preparation: Gail Fields, Donna Frost

Note: If you can't meet your scheduled time please find a substitute and let the Office know.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 10:00 AM Prayer Group 6:30 PM EFM 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Choir Practice	2	3 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA	4	5 10:00 AM AA
6 3:00 PM AA 5:30 PM Sudanese Worship	7	8 10:00 AM Prayer Group 6:30 PM EFM 7:00 PM AA	9 6:45 PM Little Church Social Club	10 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA	11	12 10:00 AM AA 12 – 1 PM SHARE Sign Up
13 9:00 AM Outreach Committee 11:15 AM SHARE Sign Up 11:45 AM DOK Meeting 1:00 PM AA 5:30 PM Sudanese Worship	14 5:30 PM ECW Ladies Night Out	15 10:00 AM Prayer Group 6:30 PM EFM 7:00 PM AA	16	17 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA	18	19 10:00 AM AA
20 3:00 PM AA 5:30 PM Sudanese Worship	21 6:30 PM Vestry	22 10:00 AM Prayer Group 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Choir Practice	23 6:45 PM Little Church Social Club	24 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM DOK Dessert and Discussion 7:00 PM AA	25	26 10:00 AM AA (Downstairs) 10 to 1 PM SHARE Distribution
27 Bishop's Visit 3:00 PM AA 5:30 PM Sudanese Worship	28	29 10:00 AM Prayer Group 7:00 PM AA	30			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA	2	3 10:00 AM AA
4 3:00 PM AA 5:30 PM Sudanese Worship	5	6 10:00 AM Prayer Group 7:00 PM AA	7	8 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA	9	10 10:00 AM AA 12 to 1 PM SHARE Sign Up
11 9:00 AM Outreach Committee 11:15 AM SHARE Sign Up 3:00 PM AA 5:30 PM Sudanese Worship	12	13 10:00 AM Prayer Group 7:00 PM AA	14 6:45 PM Little Church Social Club 7:30 PM Choir Practice	15 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA	16	17 10:00 AM AA
18 3:00 PM AA 5:30 PM Sudanese Worship	19	20 10:00 AM Prayer Group 7:00 PM AA	21	22 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA	23	24 10:00 AM AA (Downstairs) 10 to 1 PM SHARE Distribution
25 <b>St. James Day</b> 3:00 PM AA 5:30 PM Sudanese Worship	26	27 10:00 AM Prayer Group 7:00 PM AA 7:30 PM Choir Practice	28 6:45 PM Little Church Social Club	29 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA	30	31 10:00 AM AA