

The Archangel

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

February 2012

Diocese of Southern Virginia Council February 10-11, 2012

Our Diocese of Southern Virginia has an Annual Council just as all the dioceses of the Episcopal Church do. Ours is in February. It is a meeting of lay persons appointed or elected from each parish along with the clergy of the Diocese. The purpose of our Diocesan Council is to hear reports on ministries, future plans and resolutions for mission of our Diocese and the 2012 budget. Each voting member of Council has received a fine-tuned draft of the budget to review and discuss at a local Pre-Council meeting.

The Diocese, by Church Canon, is required to approve a balanced budget. In the 2012 Budget, the Diocese, out of necessity, regrettably recommends the following decreases in the Budget:

- + Decrease – Mission by \$27,500.
- + Decrease – Communication by \$13,050
(*The Jamestown Cross* will no longer be in paper form, only electronic)
- + Decrease – Administration by \$26,500
(Not filling a support staff position)
- + Decrease – Personnel by \$16,300
- + 5% maximum draw from investment interest income.

Our Diocese anticipates income based on pledges and plate from parishes and missions of \$1,454,000. The asking of the Diocese from each parish is 10% of its pledge and plate annual income in 2011. St. Michael's Vestry committed a pledge of \$17,000 to the Diocese. To honor this commitment, the Vestry approved taking A\$3,000 from savings. For 2012 the Diocesan asking was \$23,000. After prayer, work and agreement, St. Michael's made a pledge commitment of \$14,000. This was to give a pledge that is truly anticipated. St. Michael's is not alone with its decision. In past years, we have been able to make an additional offering to our Diocese. The Vestry hopes 2012 is a year we can do this.

In addition to Canonical Resolutions to benefit our Diocese's mission and activity, there are three other resolutions which by discussion and vote of Council will be approved, disapproved or tabled.

Resolution R-1

Submitted by the Rector and Vestry of The Church of the Ascension, Norfolk

Resolved: that this 120th Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia hereby petition the General Convention of the Episcopal Church to undertake a study over the next twelve months and report its findings back to the Executive Council of The Episcopal Church for consideration in furtherance of a goal to allow for greater flexibility with the fiscal year of Episcopal dioceses to better accommodate said dioceses and parishes in their annual stewardship programs and also to report the results of such a study to the Bishop and Executive Board of the Diocese of Southern Virginia.

2012 RESOLUTION R-2

Submitted by Integrity Virginia Beach Chapter & St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Hampton

RESOLVED

That this 120th Annual Council of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia encourages the Bishop of Southern Virginia to allow clergy and congregations in Southern Virginia to participate in the use of any trial liturgies that may be approved by the 77th General Convention of The Episcopal Church for formalizing the blessing of same-gender unions.

(continued on next page)

(Diocese of Southern Virginia Council – continued)

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

That this 120th Annual Council encourages the clergy and congregations of Southern Virginia to respect the theological, liturgical, ecclesial and sociological positions of clergy and congregations who choose not to exercise the option to participate in the use of trial liturgies, and encourages the Bishop to provide a generous pastoral response that will enable the clergy and congregations of Southern Virginia to discover new ways to live together if there are disagreements and to continue to find the peace of Christ that is at the heart of community.

2012 Resolution R- 3

Submitted by the Executive Board and the Standing Committee

Resolved, that the 120th Annual Council of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia, by adoption of this Resolution, commends to the Standing Committee and Executive Board of the Diocese to act in exercise of their existing Canonical responsibilities to determine the best use of the Talbot Hall property in carrying out the mission and ministry of the Diocese, including, if appropriate and necessary, the sale thereof, and if the Standing Committee and Executive Board determine that the Talbot Hall property should be sold, to determine the best and most appropriate location of a new Diocesan Center for the purpose of carrying out the mission and ministry of the Diocese; be it further

Resolved, that the Standing Committee and Executive Board, in making the aforesaid determination, shall take into consideration the following factors:

- (1) The rich history associated with the Talbot Hall property.
- (2) The environmental sensitivities of the property's shoreline along the Lafayette River.
- (3) Respect for the neighborhood surrounding the Talbot Hall property; and be it further

Resolved, that in the event of the sale of the Talbot Hall property, the funds obtained from such sale shall be used for relocation and acquisition costs of a Diocesan Center; using a portion of the proceeds of the sale to supplement housing allowances for the Bishop and Diocesan Clergy staff; furthering the mission and ministry of the Episcopal Church in Southern Virginia; and supporting the conference center ministry.

Those attending the Council are Fr. Tige Newell, David Noakes, Senior Warden and Catherine Noakes, active member. We seek your prayers for our Diocese, our Annual Council and ourselves.

Your Brother in Christ,

Tige Newell, Rector

Confirmation and Inquirers Class

Confirmation classes begin in early February. Adults will meet Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm February 7 – March 6. For EYC age folks, the class will meet on Thursday afternoons in St. Michael's at 3:00pm. Bishop Hollerith is scheduled to be at Christ and Grace, Petersburg, Sunday, March 11, 2012 for confirmations. Please contact Fr. Tige with any questions you may have.

Lenten Series

Wednesdays, February 29 – March 28, 7:30-9:00pm

The Lively Topic of Heaven:

What's it like?

Who gets to go?

Will we play harps and sit on clouds?

What will we do? What will our bodies be like?

"What's it all about, Alfie?"

We will view and discuss DVD presentations by Randy Alcorn and N.T. Wright.

Please make this timely series part of your Lenten plans.

If you NEED a ride to the Lenten programs, please contact Hank or Peggy at 796-2021 to arrange it.
If you could GIVE a ride to any of our folks for the series please contact us. Great! Thanks so much.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

The St. Michael's Adult Spiritual Formation team



Lenten Thoughts, Part I of III Parts

From the Altar Guild and the Liturgy, Prayer and Worship Commission.

Lent is upon us again with the arrival of Ash Wednesday on February 22nd. Father Tige will have finished up his Epiphany series about how we worship through the Liturgy of the Word and that leads me into my thoughts about Lent.

How are we led into prayer and worship through visual aids we see in the church seasons of the year? Lent is a good example to start with. There have been a variety of offerings through the years. There are times when I feel the need of fresh ideas, and this year was one of those times.

One of my first thoughts was to leave that old wooden cross in the closet this year; that would be different. Perhaps we'll retire a lot of those rocks and the briars and thorns.

As I was preparing for my E-100 class for Sunday morning Adult Education, the lesson was "The Cross of Christ." I had just been praying about the subject of Lenten visual aids for 2012 and here was the Lord's answer for me, imagine that, right in my Sunday school lesson. After I read the lesson the first question that came to me was why would I want to leave in the closet the most recognized and reproduced symbol in the world. Are we as Christians going to stop reading our Bibles for awhile, or stop celebrating the Eucharist on Sunday mornings because we've been doing it a lot lately? I know without a doubt that as long as we are followers of Jesus Christ we will continue to read the scripture and as He commanded us to do we will continue to celebrate the Holy Eucharist whenever we gather to worship in Remembrance of Him.

Why on earth would we want to leave that old wooden cross in the closet this or any Lent? That cross tells the story of what it is all about, Jesus' mission here on earth was to die on that cross in order that the price of our sin, not his, be paid in full once and for all. Without that cross there could be no salvation for any of us.

What about those rocks, briars and sheep; what do they have to say in the context of our worship space? Stay tuned for next month's continued thoughts on worship through the help of our visual aids.

Carolyn Mason

Ash Wednesday

By Jeanne Henry

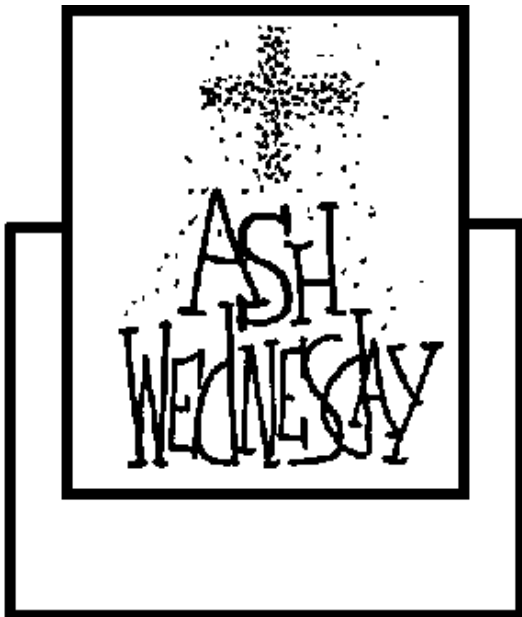
It seems like such a short time ago we were celebrating Christmas. We were caught up in all the planning and preparation, the buying and wrapping of gifts, the decorating and excitement and joy, the beauty and pageantry.... And suddenly it is Lent.

Some trick of memory intervened as I spoke of gifts, splashing a clear picture on the canvas of my mind. I was a child again, helping with the spring cleaning in my grandfather's room. It was my job to line the dresser drawers with fresh paper and then to be sure everything was put away neatly again.

One of grandpa's drawers was a storage place for his Christmas gifts. There they were, still unopened. The festive wrappings looking strangely out of place. Years worth of ties and shirts and pajamas and socks all sadly awaiting the time of their revealing.

I remember pestering my grandfather on Christmas mornings, "When are you going to open your presents, grandpa?" He'd shift his weight around in his captain's chair a bit and answer in his slow drawl, "Oh, I'll open them after awhile." But he never did. And the sad thing is that I don't think he ever knew how his disinterest disappointed the children and deprived us of the joy of seeing him accept our little gifts.

Several times a year he would bring a pile of shirts and socks to my mother and ask her to mend them. She would remind him in her gentle way that there were new ones in his Christmas drawer that he could use. But he would insist that he really didn't need those. If she'd just turn the collars and put a little patch on the sleeves there was a lot of good wear left in those garments. He could get along. Mother would sigh and shake her head. It didn't make sense.



But here it is Ash Wednesday again. A time to do some spring cleaning in our lives. A time to take a look at those unused gifts from God that we've stored away out of sight because we were too apathetic or disinterested or even just too lazy to unwrap and use. Could it be that we could make glad the heart of our Abba by accepting and using His gifts to us—even as Grandpa could have given us joy by accepting the gifts of our love so long ago?

God has offered to clothe us in garments of Salvation and Righteousness. It would be a shame for us to arrive at Easter, wearing turned collars, patched sleeves and darned socks.

We're sorry, Lord, that we have ignored so many of Your gifts. We've taken them as our due and packed them away in the dresser drawers of our lives until some nebulous future time when we might need them. Forgive us. Forgive us and help us to use your gifts to become the persons you want us to be, so we can serve You as You deserve...wholeheartedly.

Ash Wednesday, February 22nd, Services at Noon and 7:00pm



February birthday party will be on February 19th after the 10:30am worship service .

FEBRUARY

- 2 Lisa Erickson
- 7 Judy Arehart
- 8 Lynnice Randolph
- 12 Shanon Cole
- 14 Marta Janauschek
Susan Creed
- 15 Carolyn Mason
Fred Moore
- 16 Cindy Cole
Courtney Newell
- 19 Cindy Moore
Woody Woodfin
- 20 Reggie Snell
- 22 Torsten Peterson
- 23 Jan Condit
- 24 Oreda”Dolly” Schabilon
- 25 Peter Devereaux
Tom Wicker
- 27 Justin Snell
Donna Lee

Anniversaries

FEBRUARY

- 11 David and Lynette Dickerson

Pot Luck Lunch

Sunday, February 5th, after the 10:30 service.
Bring a dish to share.
You'll enjoy the good food and fellowship.

Thanks

Thank you to my St. Michael’s family for the generous Christmas gift. Happy New Year to all of you.

Kristi Renshaw

Dear St. Michael's Church Family,

I would like to thank you for your cards, kind thoughts, food, flowers and especially your prayers for me while I was sick. I saw God's love through so many dear people. I had people who went to the grocery store, got my medications, washed my clothes, cleaned my house, changed my bed, and took care my dog, Chloe and most importantly helped me prepare for the arrival of Santa. I could not have been ready for his arrival without the help of dear friends. My heart and I have been on quite a journey - not knowing I was so sick to actually having a quadruple heart bypass. I was amazed at how I constantly saw God's spirit through my ordeal. I had wonderful, spiritual nurses who offered to pray for and with me. I had skilled doctors, who I know God used to help me get to the point I am presently at now - HEALTHY! My surgeon told me I have new "pipes". I had a grandson, Tyler Vaughan, who gave me exceptional attention - from getting me whatever I needed to taking down my two Christmas Trees. Savannah and Mattie were my coaches, making sure I did my exercises and that I took my medications at the proper time.

Christmas came and went, but my Mattie told me on Christmas Day that "It was the best Christmas ever!". There was so much she and I had planned that I was unable to do. My prognosis was not the greatest before my operation, and after the surgery, I have a new lease on life. All this made me know for sure that it was a wonderful Christmas indeed. And, there will be more Christmases for Mattie and I.

I realize I took my health for granted as probably most of us do, but I just celebrated my 67th birthday in January. Remember, every birthday is a gift from God so celebrate each birthday with great joy. I personally celebrated for a whole week. Again, thanks to Tige, and all of you for your prayers and your kindness. I am blessed to have you in my life.

Phyllis Cheely

My surgery went well, but the recuperation period is a little longer than I thought. All your prayers surely were listened to. The special thank you note that's sent to you today holds more appreciation than words can ever say. Because you are the nicest people that I've ever known, you'll never be forgotten for the thoughtfulness you've shown! Thank you so much!

Your Sister in Christ, Nancy Derrick

March Archangel Deadline
Monday, February 27, 2012, 9:30am
 Ministry Schedules for March, April and May are due also.

Our annual **ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT PANCAKE SUPPER** will be on Shrove Tuesday, February 21th from 5:00 – 7:00pm. Please bring your friends and family. We will be accepting donations.



Ash Wednesday

February 22nd
Noon and 7:00pm

Service and Imposition of Ashes

Youth Ministry News

Youthquake 12 was a wonderful experience. The weekend's theme was about the healing power of the Holy Spirit. Thank you for all your prayers. I want to give a special thanks to the adult counselor Beverly Gay, she was such a big help to me. Eight youth went to this year's event. We arrived at Ridgecrest Friday night excited about the events that were to come. The band *Unhindered* provided the worship and praise music. The first General Session Friday night, Robby Dawkins spoke about the Holy Spirit and how it is in all of us. The scripture of the night focused on Act chapter 2:1-21. Later that evening he gave examples of the power of healing prayer, and asked for people to come up who were in pain and began to pray for them. We were introduced to the French Mountaineers; they were hilarious with their slogan "Hydrate or Die" and the interactive games. Guy Allen was able to participate in the French flag making contest on Saturday. Saturday was a really cold and windy day with nice dose of snow that evening. We gathered for General Session and had our Break-Out groups continued to listen to our speaker Robbie Dawkins talk about how we can make a difference and after the weekend. The Holy Spirit touched each one of us and had us reflecting on our own relationship with Jesus Christ. We are now coming down off the mountain. All praise to Jesus Christ! Amen.

Our annual all-you-can-eat Pancake Supper will be on February 21th from 5:00 – 7:00pm. Please bring your friends and family. We will be accepting donations.

Praise be to God, Your servant Michael

Petersburg Home for Ladies

The Petersburg Home for Ladies is a residential and assisted living community with a reputation in the Tri-Cities and surrounding counties for providing elegant living with exceptional care. There is a licensed nursing staff on site 24 hours a day with four levels of care, medication management assistance, transportation to and from appointments, dietitian consultant and full schedule of social activities. Prices are competitive and there is no large up-front payment upon entry.

On January 24, 2012, we were notified that a studio with private bath and a deluxe two room suite were available. Call Teresa Weeks, Administrator at 733-0148 to learn more about the facility and available residential accommodations.

Brochure is posted on the hall bulletin board.

E-mail: www.PetersburgHomeForLadies.org

Report from Jackson-Feild Home Jarratt, VA

2011 was a very successful year for Jackson-Feild Homes. We served 107 girls from 31 localities throughout the Commonwealth and the District of Columbia. Eight students graduated from Gwaltney School and six of these girls enrolled in community college courses following graduation.

These successes would not be possible without the generous and loyal support we receive from St. Michael's. As we begin a new year we look forward to making an even greater impact on the lives of the young girls we serve....


Last year we doubled the capacity of our psychiatric residential treatment program and we anticipate continued growth this year. We obtained an additional license from the Department of Behavioral Health and Rehabilitative Services, which allows us to provide intensive in-home services to families throughout Virginia. The focus of this program is to work with families in crises to address and resolve their problems, thereby avoiding out of home placements.

We are proud of the growth we experienced in 2011 and we look forward, with your help, to continuing this pattern in 2012. Many thanks for your generous and caring support.

Ann E. Chaffins
Assistant Director of Development

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:30-Al-Anon	2 7:15-Choir	3	4
POT LUCK 5 8:00am-Holy Euch. I 9:00am-Adult Education 10:30am-Holy Euch. II w. Sun. Sch.	6 1:00-Cursillo Gr. 7:00-Vestry	7 7:00-Cursillo Gr.	8 10:30-Al-Anon	9 7:15-Choir	10 ANNUAL	11 9:00-4:00 Al-Anon District Meeting and Workshop COUNCIL
12 8:00am-Holy Euch. I 9:00am-Adult Education 10:30am-Holy Euch. II w. Sun. Sch. 2:00-Kids' Party	13 1:00-Cursillo Gr.	14  7:00-Cursillo Gr.	15 10:00-A.A.R.P. 10:30-Al-Anon	16 7:15-Choir	17 7:00-Cursillo Ultreya	18
Birthdays 19 8:00am-Holy Euch. I 9:00am-Adult Education 10:30am-Holy Euch. II w. Sun. Sch.	20 OFFICE CLOSED 1:00-Cursillo Gr.	SHROVE TUES. 21 5:00-PANCAKE SUPPER 7:00-Cursillo Gr.	ASH WED 22 10:30-Al-Anon Noon and 7:00pm WORSHIP	23 7:15-Choir	24	25
26 8:00am-Holy Euch. I 9:00am-Adult Education 10:30am-Holy Euch. II w. Sun. Sch.	27 Archangel Deadline 1:00-Cursillo Gr.	28 7:00-Cursillo Gr.	29 10:30-Al-Anon 7:30-Lenten Series			