



the CATHEDRAL MESSENGER

The biweekly parish newsletter of The Cathedral Church of St. Stephen, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Vol. 11, No. 1

January 16, 2005

On Front Street

In the life of faith, revealed once and for all time through the immanence and glory of Christ Jesus, there are yet further layers, innumerable signs, constant unfoldings. Paradoxical as it may often seem, such endless manifestations merely confirm the organic nature and hope-filled effervescence that has come into being, truth upon truth. The mystical brilliance of John's Prologue speaks to such wonder and perpetuity, embracing light and logos as the tangible symbols of faith now made real, to be dispensed and dispersed to every corner of humankind: "*All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.*" [John 1:3-5]"

Here at St. Stephen's, in the wake of Christmas and Epiphany seasons filled with such luminescence, there are countless rays and reflections, glints and glimmers. We need not look far for affirmation that, indeed, darkness did not and shall not ever prevail. Our Stewardship Campaign this fall, to take but one example, has been an unmitigated success, surpassing last year's generosity by more than 11%. As of this writing, more than \$422,000 has been pledged by all of you to support, strengthen and embolden the mission of the Gospel as it is lived out here on Front Street and far beyond. Within that bounteousness and blessing there are countless wonders, and I pray you might lift all of them up in your prayers and intercessions. If you will indulge me, I would like to share one facet in particular. Of the 215 blue pledge cards received thus far, 8 have come from youth who call this parish their home. In addition, 61 other young people give through envelopes on a regular basis to support the mission of the Gospel. Undoubtedly there are yet others, unknown to me, who contribute fully as part of their

family's giving. Such charity and benevolence is utterly worthy of great and prayer-filled "thanks". The example set by these many young, faithful disciples should and does inspire and elevate us all. We are immeasurably better people and a far more blessed community for their life and presence and unbridled spirit among us.

The true and authentic heart of giving which is at work here, far deeper and much broader than mere money, reveals to me that very brilliance, that awe inspiring "light triumphant" which John sees break forth into the world. After all, as the Gospel continues: "*to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born not of blood or the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God*" [John 1:12-13]." In these young people and in their witness we see without blemish or hindrance that which we call "the indwelling of the Holy Spirit", that precious and longed for symbol of God's work in the world about us.

The life of faith, at its most fundamental and elemental level, is about reflecting the face of Christ and seeing that same reflection in others. The journey with Christ is about how we seek to actually and regularly and sacrificially live out grace and hope in a world which thirsts for both. I see such outward and visible ministries and offerings everywhere at St. Stephen's, and quite frankly it is both humbling and thrilling. How about you?

In peace and faith,

The Very Reverend Mark H. Hatch
Interim Dean

WEEKLY LITURGIES AT THE CATHEDRAL

Sunday:	Holy Eucharist, Rite II – said service	8:00 a.m.
Sunday:	Holy Eucharist Rite II, with Music	10:15 a.m.
Wednesday:	Holy Eucharist, Rite II	7:00 a.m.
Thursday:	Holy Eucharist, Rite II	12:10 p.m.

News and Events

Vestry and Diocesan Delegate Nominations

The Nominating Committee nominates the following slate of candidates to stand for election to Vestry this year:

Ron Burkholder	Mike Pasenelli
Helen Delano	Linda Shorey
Mort Hendrickson	Bonnee Voss
Harry Weber	

The Nominating Committee nominates the following slate of candidates to stand for election as delegates and alternates on behalf of St. Stephen's at the Diocesan Convention this coming year:

Delegates:

Jean-Paul Benowitz	Pat Strohl
Tom Leaman	Anne Yellott
Betty McLaughlin	

Alternates:

Jeanne Leaman	Amy Benowitz
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Elections for Vestry and Diocesan Delegates will be held at the Annual Meeting on January 30, 2005 following a single 9 a.m. service of Holy Eucharist. According to our bylaws, parishioners who are baptized and 16 years or older are eligible to vote. Candidate fliers are available in the Narthex and Nave. Absentee ballots are available through the Cathedral office for use by persons who are confined to their homes or in hospital or illness or accident or who will be absent from the Diocese on the morning of the Annual Meeting. Please contact Sami Lytle (236.4059) to obtain an absentee ballot if you will need one.

The Gathering

St. Stephens' book group, is re-forming with energy for this new year. You are invited to join us as we read selections chosen by members of the group and meet for discussions on a monthly basis. Our next get-together will be at the home of Daphne Messersmith on January 26th at 7:00 pm. We'll be discussing a book many of us read this fall, The Barn at the End of the World by Mary O'Reily. This is a wonderful *spiritual journey* account of a woman who is exploring Buddhism as she is studying for her certification as a shepherd . . . good humor and thought-provoking insights about religion, animals and life.

The book for February is The Rise of the Creative Class by Richard Florida. It is an exploration of class shifts and cultural values in American society. Florida is an economist who is calling for those devoted to technological creativity to work in solidarity for the common good. We will meet at the home of Margaret and David Messner for discussion on Tuesday evening February 22. (Washington's real birthday) The book is available from Amazon for \$9.49

All are invited to join The Gathering for learning, growing and fellowship!

Homeless Shelter

Many of you all have volunteered to stay overnight at the Downtown Emergency Homeless Shelter over the two weeks for which we are responsible - the week of February 6th and week of March 13th. Bill Ilgenfritz is in charge of scheduling and will be in touch with all of you regarding details, arrival times, instructions etc.

All others, who would like to join in this holy effort to offer a warm place to sleep for those neighbors who otherwise would be on the street, are welcomed to call Bill or speak to Daphne about the ministry.

Online Giving

The Cathedral currently has the capability to process online giving by going to our website: www.ststep.org and selecting secure online giving. From there, create your own personal account. This is an easy and secure way to give. You will be able to view your transactions and can even setup recurring transactions. Should you need help please don't hesitate to call the parish office at 236-4059.

Parking

St. Stephen's community now has access to free covered parking at the PHFA facility, adjacent to the Dauphin County Bar Association. Free access to the covered parking will be available all day Saturdays, all day Sundays, and after 6 PM on weekdays. Rare exceptions may be made in the event of festivities such as Kipona. Drivers will be asked simply to enter a 4 digit code (7732#) at the entrance of the garage, on River Alley. The gate will automatically rise upon departure. The garage interior has an elevator on every floor and a handicapped ramp at ground level.

Please Help Support the Youth Group!

Thank You from the Youth Group. The Youth Group thanks everyone who has purchased gift cards for Giant Food stores and submitted receipts from Fox's Markets. These programs and other fundraising efforts allowed a group of 10 from St. Stephen's to attend the Nightwatch Program at The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in New York City on January 8-9, 2005. We will continue the Giant Food gift card sales and collection of receipts from Fox's Market to fund activities in 2005. The Giant gift cards are available for purchase in different denominations. You pay the face value for the card, the Youth Group receives 5% of the face value, and the card is good for the face value when presented at the store. Gift cards are available from Connie Wilson after the 8:00 a.m. service and Adult Forum or Mary Jane Forbes Schmidt after the 10:15 a.m. service. Alternatively, if you have any questions contact Connie at (717) 534-0642 or c2wilson@comcast.net. If you shop at Fox's Markets, save your receipts and bring them to the collection box located in the Narthex. The Youth Group will receive 1% of the value of collected receipts.

The Next Publication Date

Articles for the next Messenger need to be submitted no later than Sunday, January 23, 2005.

Please come to the St. Valentine's Day Dinner Dance Fundraiser
Hosted by Jayne and Chip Abrams and Lynn and Wil Everhart

Saturday, February 12, 2005
The Country Club of Harrisburg
401 Fishing Creek Valley Road, Harrisburg

6:00 - Cash Bar
6:30 - Dinner
7:00 - Dancing to the Music of
George Johnson, "Disc Jockey Extraordinaire"

Please detach here and return form with contribution

RSVP - Valentine's Day Dinner Dance

Cupid Club
___ @ \$50.00 per person \$ _____
Cherubim
___ @ \$75.00 per person \$ _____
Seraphim
___ @ \$100.00 per person \$ _____
Heavenly Hosts
___ Table of 10 @ \$500.00 \$ _____
___ We cannot attend, but we would like to make a contribution to St. Stephen's
Cathedral \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Please make checks payable to St. Stephen's Cathedral and return by February 1 to:
St. Valentine's Day Dinner Dance, c/o Jayne and Chip Abrams
1812 Walnut Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011

You are Invited

To an Ecumenical Taize service sponsored by the Downtown Clergy at 7:30 p.m. on January 19, 2005 at Zion Lutheran Church on 4th Street. Together with members of the downtown congregations we will celebrate the unity that is ours in Jesus Christ as part of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Taize is a style of worship that includes sung prayer, quiet meditation and candle lighting. There will be a reception after the service. A free will offering will be taken to support the Downtown Shelter. Parking is available in the Chestnut Street Parking Garage. The entrance to the garage is on Chestnut Street between 3rd and 4th Streets. The garage and Zion Lutheran Church are handicapped accessible.

Stewardship Update:

As of January 10, we have received 215 pledges for \$422,293. Thank you to all who have stepped up in the Spirit this year. We are deeply touched by your generosity and hopefulness. For those of you still praying and discerning about your offering, please know how important your contributions of time, talent and treasure are. Your Vestry will be finalizing its FY 2005 budget, based upon stewardship totals, at the January 20 Vestry meeting. We would be glad to speak with you at your convenience should you have any current questions, reflections or thoughts.

—Mary Jane Forbes-Schmidt

Leave your Mark at the Cathedral on an Engraved Brick!

Take a look at the new Cloister area between the Cathedral House and the Cathedral. YES, your name (or a friend or relative) can be inscribed on a brick for \$100 per brick. Forms are available in the back of the church.

Soup! Glorious Soup!

We are continuing our tradition of offering a soup and bread supper before Lenten programs on Wednesday evenings from February 16 through March 16 at 6:15pm. Please contact Beth Transue at 432-5413 or bmtransue@hotmail.com to volunteer to bring a favorite soup and bread on a Wednesday evening of your choice.

-Beth Transue

Helping Hands Needs You!

St. Stephen's will continue to provide a space for Helping Hands on Sunday afternoons and we need you! Volunteers are needed on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, to receive food supplies (Saturday) and Sunday to help open the doors for our needy and homeless neighbors, set up the kitchen area and clean up when the meal is finished. Can we count on you to help? Please call (215-2110 or 732-7033) or email (JSEsham@msn.com) Joan Esham if you would like to have your name placed on a list of volunteers. Thank you!

New Year's Resolutions

I'd like us to focus on a very sensitive yet serious health concern, "Childhood Obesity." The Pennsylvania Advocates for Nutrition and Activity report that obesity rates have doubled in children and tripled in adolescents over the last two decades. Obese children are twice as likely as non-obese children to become obese adults.

Some reasons for this increase are that soft drink consumption has doubled over the last 30 years, only two percent of children two through nineteen years of age meet the five main recommendations for a healthy diet from the Food Guide Pyramid, and the lack of physical activity. This information is so important because heart disease, cancer, stroke and diabetes are responsible for two-thirds of the deaths in the United States.

As families, we need to be more involved in helping our children maintain healthy lifestyles by teaching them about good nutrition, and the need for daily exercise. We also need to set a good example for them to follow. Here are some simple things you can do: cut back on soft drinks and sugared fruit drinks, encourage low fat milk or fresh fruits, be creative with how you serve well-balanced meals, eliminate desserts, don't eat or drink while watching television, and go for regular walks or bike rides.

The belief that physical health is just as important to our Christian walk as spiritual and emotional health, and that care of the body is a crucial form of stewardship of what God has created and entrusted to us must be embraced by all.

The magnitude of this problem is exceeded only by the possibilities for health, life, and ministry pleasing unto God.

Liz Fite
Parish Nurse

Congratualtions

The Rev. Nancy Lee Jose, former assistant at the Cathedral, was installed as rector of St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Washington D.C. on Epiphany Eve by the Rt. Rev. John B. Chane, Bishop of Washington. Our prayers go with her as she takes on the challenges of this new ministry. She and her husband, Dr. Wayne Floyd's address is: The Rev Nancy Jose and Dr. Wayne Floyd, 1735 19th St NW, Washington, D.C. 20009-1648.

Do you want to Dance?

Mark your calendar now! Plan to celebrate Valentine's Day with your favorite guy or gal at a "fun" fundraiser for the operating budget of St. Stephen's! On Saturday, February 12, committee chairs Jayne and Chip Abrams and Lynn and Wil Everhart will be hosting a romantic St. Valentine's Day Dinner Dance at the Country Club of Harrisburg. \$50 per person. Please see the invitation enclosed in this Messenger!



Cathedral Church of Saint Stephen
and Cathedral House
Harrisburg, PA

Visit our Web Site:
www.ststep.org

the CATHEDRAL MESSENGER

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN

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Web Site: www.ststep.org

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TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

PARISH LEADERSHIP

<i>Bishop</i>	Michael Creighton
<i>Interim Dean</i>	Mark H. Hatch
<i>Canon Pastor</i>	Daphne S. K. Messersmith
<i>Parish Nurse</i>	Liz Fite
<i>Deacon Emeritus</i>	Paul Williams
<i>Minister of Music</i>	Michael Shoemaker
<i>Hospitality Coordinator</i>	Judy Clemmer
<i>Senior Warden</i>	Craig Wilson
<i>Junior Warden</i>	Mary Jane Forbes-Schmidt
<i>Vestry:</i>	Gene McHugh
Helen Delano	Guy Patterson
Ann Elliott	Greg Penny
Joan Esham	Lynn Schadle
Gerald Garber II	Rosemary Webber
Warren Gillam	Bill Davis
<i>Parish Treasurer</i>	Greg Penny
<i>Acting Vestry Secretary</i>	Jane Bartholomew
<i>Worship Ministry</i>	Becky Tartline
<i>Education Ministry</i>	Ted Webber
<i>Evangelism Ministry</i>	Betsy Howell, Bill Ilgenfritz
<i>Outreach Coordinating Ministry</i>	Helen Hendrickson
<i>Parish Health Ministry</i>	Mary Jane Forbes-Schmidt
<i>Stewardship Ministry</i>	Thomas Schmidt III
<i>Finance Ministry</i>	Joan Esham
<i>Property Committee</i>	Jeff Spangler
<i>Environmental Stewardship</i>	Ann Elliott
<i>Arts and Drama Committee</i>	Carol Lopus
<i>St. Stephen's School</i>	Greg Penny
<i>Acolyte Warden</i>	John and Ellen Harles
<i>Sunday School Coordinators</i>	Kathyann Corl-Rodeheaver
<i>"Seeds of Faith" Manager</i>	Margaret Messner
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Sandy Strohl
<i>Flower Guild</i>	Michael Frascella
<i>Usbers</i>	Carolyn Patterson
<i>Nursery</i>	Shannon Powers
<i>Youth Coordinator</i>	

CATHEDRAL CALENDAR

<i>January</i>	16	THE 2ND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
	16	Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.
	16	Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m.
	17	Creative Writing Workshop, 6:30 p.m.
	17	Arts and Drama Committee, 6:30 p.m.
	19	Taize Worship at Zion Lutheran, 7:30 p.m.
	20	Vestry, 7:00 p.m.
	22	Prayer Group, 1:00 p.m.
	23	THE 3RD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
	23	Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.
	23	Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m.
	23	Youth Group - Snow Tubing details TBA
	24	Seekers Bible Study, 1:00 p.m.
	24	Creative Writing Workshop, 6:30 p.m.
	26	The Gathering, 7:00 p.m.
	27	Personnel Committee, 7:00 p.m.
	30	THE 4TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
	30	Holy Eucharist — 9 a.m. ONLY Annual Meeting immediately following in the Uppercroft
	30	Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m.
	31	Creative Writing Workshop, 6:30 p.m.
<i>February</i>	1	Outreach Coordinating Committee, 6:30 p.m.
	3	Christian Education and Formation Committee, 6:30 p.m.
	6	LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
	6	Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.
	6	Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m.
	7	St. Stephen's School Board of Directors, 6:00 p.m.