



the CATHEDRAL MESSENGER

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

Vol. 11, No. 4

April 2005

On Front Street

For slightly more than 100 years, the Order of the Holy Cross Monastery at West Park, New York has served as a beacon of Benedictine spirituality in the Anglican (and wider) world. Founded in 1884 by James Otis Sargent Huntington, O.C. has, as part of its mission, *“to provide a specifically North American expression of monasticism.”* In so doing, the Brothers regularly reflect, pray and write about the tensions between materialism and spirituality in this complex and modern age. The most recent newsletter, and the Prior’s Column, speak powerfully to this challenge which Christ has set before all followers and seekers:

“...Jesus puts before us [in Matthew and Luke] the uncomfortable truth that we need carefully to look at what we count as treasure because we will become like what we love. Throughout the scriptures, the primal sin is idolatry, that is, putting of something less than God in God’s place as the source of security and happiness...The rooting out of idolatry in the Gospel and in the monastic tradition is accomplished in the search for purity of heart. ‘Rend your hearts and not your garments’ is the prophet’s command.” Br. Douglas goes on to write, *“We need to look at what we desire, because that is what we will become. And if it is anything other than God, we become something that will pass away with a puff of wind. Whereas, for those who love God, the Lord has prepared more than we can ask or desire.”*

These are beautiful, compelling and unnerving truths which I, for one, delicately avoid and carefully overlook as I make my way through life and ministry. But sometimes circumstances and events arise in our midst, as they do at the Cathedral in this present hour, where we can no longer avoid that deep searching of the heart and some more profound understanding of what it means to follow Christ, right here, right now. While not all of us are called to monasticism, we all share in the great ministry of Christ by virtue of our baptism, and thus all are ministers, no two alike, one of one kind and one of another, yet striving towards the same great purpose — the Kingdom of God. For me, despite living a decidedly simple and relatively fleet-footed life, there are still material things to which I

cling. I know, truth be told, that sin of idolatry is as much in me as it is in most. I remember losing a treasured blue sweater, while riding a bus from the mountains to the coast of Costa Rica, a “loss” over which I literally wasted days of sleeplessness in trying to find. One day, after futility upon futility, I just stood by the side of the road which runs from Puerto Limon to the Panamanian border and felt an acute wave of foolishness and embarrassment wash over me. I realized, in such an absurd manner, that I had let a material thing (of little financial cost but of long-standing sentimental value) begin to erode my Spirit and interrupt my relationship with God. Finally letting go was essential. Finally getting free was wonderful. Finally realizing that in each of our lives there is or are something or somethings which divert us in the same fashion was another great learning of my time away.

I do not wish to make light of the serious and imminent challenges which we face as we continue in our ministry on Front Street. But, as is so often the case, God has spoken to me through another, in this case the Prior of Holy Cross. Once again I turned to the 6th chapter of Matthew’s Gospel. Once again I searched and examined my self and my “possessions”, their meaning and their ultimate lack thereof. Perhaps in this complicated yet always portentous and exciting time at St. Stephen’s we would all do well, in the Great 50 Days of Easter, to undertake the same.

In peace and faith,

The Very Rev. Mark H. Hatch
Interim Dean

News and Events

Highlights of the Vestry Meeting on March 17, 2005

The following is a summary of the key items addressed during the St. Stephen's Vestry meeting held on March 17, 2005. A copy of the minutes of this meeting will be posted on the Cloister Bulletin Board following their approval at the April Vestry Meeting.

1. Upon the recommendation of the Interim Dean, the Vestry unanimously elected Helen Delano to serve as the Assistant Secretary to the Vestry.
2. The Vestry received a report concerning the refinancing of the outstanding line of credit in the amount of \$1,260,000 with Fulton Bank. On March 2, St. Stephen's entered into a mortgage with Fulton Bank in the amount of \$900,000 at 6.5% interest for a term of 20 years. Both the Chapter House and the Bigler House serve as collateral for the mortgage. The balance of the funds owed to Fulton from the line of credit were paid in full from the Capital Campaign Fund and the Cathedral savings. As additional funds are received in the Capital Campaign savings account, the Cathedral savings will be reimbursed. The monthly mortgage payment is \$6,761. For the balance of 2005, \$60,849 must be paid to Fulton Bank.
3. The Interim Dean also informed Vestry that a Heistand Loan in the amount of \$150,000, payable over a twenty-year term, has been approved by the Finance Committee of the Diocese. For the first ten years of the loan, no interest will be charged and no payments will be due. In the eleventh year of the loan, 5 % simple interest will be payable for the balance of the term. All members of Vestry expressed their sincere thanks to the Bishop and the members of the Diocesan Finance Committee.
4. Bill Davis, Treasurer, distributed a revised budget document to the Vestry, which reflected a deficit of nearly \$100,000 for 2005. Bill reported that several factors have contributed to the increased deficit, including the new mortgage payments that must be paid to Fulton Bank, the absence of rental payments from the Bigler House, and the addition of an estimated compensation package that the hiring of a new Dean may require.
5. The Vestry also discussed ways to address the budget deficit and to pay down the substantial

mortgage. One option that was proposed is to sell certain assets of the Cathedral, including antiques, collectibles, stained glass, and real property. Ann Elliott, the Junior Warden, has been gathering information about these assets and has contacted appraisers and fine art dealers. Mary Jane Forbes-Schmidt, the Senior Warden, has been consulting with real estate professionals to gather information about the possible sale and/or rental of the Cathedral-owned properties. After a lengthy discussion, the Vestry voted unanimously to authorize the Parish Leadership to explore the sale of Cathedral assets, including the real estate; obtain appraisals at fair market value; where possible, identify interested buyers; and to bring recommendations to Vestry for any sale of such assets at the April meeting.

6. Following the recusal of the Interim Dean and the Canon Pastor, the Vestry discussed at great length another way to address the budget deficit, and that is to further reduce the size of the Cathedral staff. The Vestry requested additional information regarding the existing staff positions and agreed to continue its discussion at the April meeting.

7. After hearing the perspective of Ted Webber as the chair of the Evangelism Committee, the Vestry discussed the proposed reorganization of the committees of St. Stephen's, a copy of which had been posted on the Cloister Bulletin Board. It was agreed that a meeting of all committee chairs, interested committee members, and Parish leadership should be scheduled in the very near future to facilitate discussion of the proposed reorganization and to develop mission statements, goals, objectives and committee procedures. Accordingly, the committee reorganization plan was tabled until that meeting is held.

8. The Vestry approved the requests of the Outreach Committee to contribute \$1,000 to Susquehanna Service Dogs and \$800 to Christian Churches United. With respect to a donation of \$1,000 that was requested for Downtown Daily Bread, the Vestry agreed that those funds should be disbursed as part of the proceeds for the Great Pumpkin Chase in the fall, and Downtown Daily Bread will be informed of this decision.

Prayerfully submitted,
Mary Jane Forbes-Schmidt, Senior Warden
Ann Elliott, Junior Warden
Mark Hatch, Interim Dean

We're Looking Good!

The Cathedral held a church wide clean up day on Saturday, March 19th. It turned out to be a beautiful and a terrific day for hard work and good fellowship! The inside charge was headed up by Margaret Messner who did a wonderful job in organizing the work that needed to be completed. The silver was polished, the marble was scrubbed, the pews were swept, and kneelers were cleaned, the wooden furniture and railings were dusted, the rugs and pew cushions were swept, the toys and furniture in the nursery were wet-wiped, the furniture in the parlors was dusted, and the vents in the Cloister were cleaned. Light bulbs were replaced in the Sanctuary; the old bookstore was cleaned out and readied for a yet to be decided new tenant. The outside work consisted of raking leaves, pulling weeds, trimming back old flowers and bushes, picking up trash and blowing the campus clean of dust, winter salt and muck. We were able to make use of two borrowed power washers to clean up the bird debris from the bricks and benches in the Bishop's Garden. A few brave souls climbed the big extension ladder to power wash the outside Cloister windows, as well as all of the windows in the front of the Cathedral area. At the end of the day, the outside of the Cathedral campus looked totally spruced up and clean and the inside of the Cathedral smelled and looked impeccably clean! To top off the morning, we had a wonderful lunch in the Undercroft, where very creative members were making palm crosses. We give thanks to Don and Christie Forsythe, Marsali Hansen, Mary McCollough, and Ariel and Allan Jespersen for their help with the crosses.

If you have a chance to see any of the hard workers listed below, please take a moment to thank them for their dedication to making God's house a wonderful and proud place to worship and gather for fellowship: Mary Jane Forbes-Schmidt, Mark Hatch, Sam and Lorelei Clemens, Daphne Messersmith, Debbie Robelen, Gwen and Tom Long, Mike and Carolyn Frascella, Warren and Dorothy Gillam, Jennifer Black, Rosemary and Ted Webber, Greg and Roberta Penny, Donna Burkholder, Priscilla Dentler, Pauline Risser-Clemens, Barbara and Ralph Gillette, Susan Haimovich, Margaret Messner, Puebla Washington and Rick Seay, Gene Schofield, Gerry and Tim Garber, Joan Esham, Mike Pasenelli, Guy Patterson, Mort Hendrickson, Bill Grimes, Cathy Jones and Ann and Jim Elliott. (my apologies if I missed anyone)

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 the name of a friend or loved one) can be inscribed on a brick for \$100 per brick. Forms are available in the back of the church.

The Next Publication Date

Articles for the next Monthly Messenger need to be submitted no later than Wednesday, April 24, 2005.

SPRING LUNCHEON

For persons 55 years and over

Saturday, May 21, 2005

12 noon to 2:30 PM

(no charge)

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

St. Stephen's Uppercroft
(Elevator Available)

Featuring music by:

The Reeder Sisters

Sponsored by

the Parish Health Ministry

The Gathering

Read With Us. The Gathering, a monthly-meeting book group here at St. Stephens welcomes all who love to broaden their horizons through reading and sharing. We usually meet in the second floor conference room of the Chapter House at 7:00 p.m. on the designated evening to discuss the previously read selection. We have all discovered that we are reading books that we would otherwise not read and discovered, too, that the joy of reading is extended when shared with others. Please join us to talk about Reading Lolita in Tehran on Wednesday March 30 and The New Rabbi on April 27.

ALSO on MARCH 30 . . .

A field trip is planned for that evening to the Taize service at Market Square Presbyterian Church. This is a worship experience which has a broad appeal and which invites participants to pray with silence, chant and spoken meditation in an atmosphere of candlelight and great beauty. Also, the service last about an hour and begins at 7:30 every Wednesday evening at Market Square. We'll meet at the St. Stephens School entrance on Cranberry Alley at 7:00 to walk over together.

News about Canon Floyd

Dr. Wayne Floyd, former canon theologian of St. Stephen's, has been named Director of the new Center for Formation for Ministry, a division of the Cathedral College of the Washington National Cathedral. He will be developing programming in lay education and formation which includes ecumenical and interfaith perspectives. He will also be working on the development of comprehensive programs in diaconal formation and the training for licensed lay ministries for the Episcopal Diocese of Washington.



Mark Your Calendars for July 7th

It's finally Spring! And we know what that means! It's time for baseball, and a trip to Camden Yards. Mark your calendars for Thursday, July 7, 2005. On that day, the bus will depart Harrisburg at 4 p.m. for the trip to Baltimore. For a refreshing change, we will see the Baltimore Orioles play the World Champion Boston Red Sox! (Who needs those old Yankees anyway?) A box lunch and refreshments will be provided, all for the bargain price of \$45 per person, or 2 tickets for \$85. You may send your checks made payable to St. Stephen's to the Cathedral Office, attention: Mike Frascella. Mike can be contacted at frascell@paonline.com or 944-0710. Let's play ball!

Remembering St. Stephen's in your Will

The Book of Common Prayer states that *"The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time, about the duty of Christian parents to make prudent provisions for the well-being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in good health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses."* (BCP p445). As a recent newsletter reminded me, in words far better than I could pen, "There is no time like the present for making out a will. The best of intentions, the finest and fairest of plans, will have been made in vain if you have not left a valid will to direct the disposition of your estate." Please prayerfully consider including St. Stephen's Cathedral, its mission and its ministry, in your estate planning and will preparation. In peace and faith, Mark

Youth Group Fundraising Continues

The Youth Group is continuing to sell Giant Food gift cards and to collect receipts from Fox's Market to fund Youth Group activities. Gift cards are available from Connie Wilson or Mary Jane Forbes Schmidt. If you shop at Fox's Markets, save your receipts and bring them to the collection box located in the Narthex. Contact Connie at (717) 534-0642 or c2wilson@comcast.net if you have questions.

Annual Church Picnic!

Mark your calendars, the picnic this year will be held on SUNDAY, JUNE 5 immediately following the 10:15 a.m. service. The picnic this year will again be held on City Island at the Pavilion along the river. A sign up sheet will be available for those attending to contribute a salad or dessert. Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be provided. We will also need a few individuals to help with set up and clean up. This year activities for the kids will be provided as well as activities for adults. This is a wonderful event and offers everyone a chance to mingle with friends and enjoy the great outdoors so don't miss it! We are asking for volunteers from the youth group to assist with the kid games, so if you are interested, please contact Shannon Powers. If you have any questions or would like to help with the picnic this year, please contact Bernadette Kaiser at 774-2021. Hope to see there!

CATHEDRAL CALENDAR

April	3	THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
	3	Blood Pressure Screening, 8:45 a.m.
	3	Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.
	3	Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m.
	4	St. Stephen's School Board of Directors, 6:00 p.m.
	5	Outreach Coordinating Committee, 6:30 p.m.
	5	Discernment Committee, 7:00 p.m.
	6	Staff Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
	6	Vestry Retreat, 5:15 p.m.
	7	Christian Education and Formation Committee, 6:30 p.m.
	10	THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
	10	Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.
	10	Bowling for all ages, 2:00 p.m. at Red Crown Bowling Center
	10	Harrisburg AGO Member/Student Recital, 4:00 p.m.
	10	Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m.
	10	Youth Group Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
	11	Seekers, 1:00 p.m.
	11	AIDS Community Alliance Dinner, 5:30 p.m.
	11	Arts and Drama Committee, 6:30 p.m.
	12	Property Committee, 7:00 p.m.
	13	Staff Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
	14	Finance Committee, 7:30 p.m.
	17	THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
	17	UTO INGATHERING
	17	Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.
	17	Book Study, 11:45 a.m.
	17	Helping Hands, 4P, 4:30 p.m.
	18	Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.
	19	Evangelism Committee, 7:00 p.m.
	20	Staff Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
	21	Vestry, 7:00 p.m.
	23	Oasis Prayer Group, 1:00 p.m.
	23	Youth Event Lock-in, 6:00 p.m.
	24	THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
	24	Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.
	24	Book Study, 11:45 a.m.
	24	Helping Hands, 4:30 p.m.
	25	Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.
	28	Seekers Bible Study, 1:00 p.m.
	30	Staff Meeting, 10:00 a.m.

Spring Annual Blood Drive

The Cathedral Blood Donor Program is off to a good start for 2005. The program was blessed with the addition of ten new donors in 2004, and these new donors helped exceed the 2004 blood goal by 13%. Our donors, old and new, have already donated over one-fifth of the 2005 blood goal in the first two months of this year.

The Annual Blood Drive, sponsored by the Parish Health Ministry, has been moved from the Fall to the Spring. The Blood Drive for 2005 will be held in the Undercroft from 8-11 AM on Sunday, April 17th. The Health Ministry did not want to display materials for the Blood Drive during Lent or on Easter Sunday. Therefore, the much shortened campaign for Blood Drive donors will not begin until Sunday, April 3rd, only two weeks before the date of the Blood Drive. As in previous years, donor sign-up rosters will be available both at Adult Forum, and in the Narthex of the Cathedral. All suitable donors, whether established or newcomers, are asked to prayerfully consider blood donation on April 17th. The need for blood NEVER diminishes, and the donor help to supply this need is NEVER-ENDING! The Parish Health Ministry thanks you for your consideration.

Fall Registration at St. Stephen's School

Although it seems as though the snow has barely melted and summer is still just a dream we are already planning for next fall and the start of a new school year. Re-registration of current students is complete and we are ready to accept applications for new students for September 2005. St. Stephen's Episcopal School is a wonderful place to be a student! We have classes for students who are 3 years old before September 1 through 8th grade. There are full day and half day options for students in preschool and prekindergarten. If you are interested in learning more about the curriculum and programming at St. Stephen's School call the office, 238-8590, and request an information packet or schedule a tour of the building. *We would love to have your child become part of our school family!*

The Seekers Group

The Seekers Group is beginning a study of the Book of Job (by Kerygma) at our April 11 meeting. Books are available from Daphne Messersmith. We invite you to join us as we explore our faith and its meaning for each of us. Our meetings are the second and fourth Monday each month, at 1:00 p.m. We meet in participant's homes. For information, you may call Helen Hendrickson at 545-2956.

Bowling for all Ages

Join the Youth Group for bowling fun at the Red Crown Bowling Center on **Sunday April 10, 2005 at 2:00 p.m.** This event is open to bowlers of all ages for a cost of \$2 per bowler and will include 2 hours of bowling, shoe rental, pizza, chips and soda. Reservations are required by Sunday April 3 – payment of the fee will serve as your reservation. Contact Connie Wilson at 534-0642 or c2wilson@comcast.net for more information, directions to Red Crown or to make a reservation.

Eastertide Bible Study: A Journey Through the Wisdom Literature

Join us as we explore Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes and the Song of Songs. This will be an open, interactive, spirit-focused adventure (not an academic course). We shall meet in the Bishop's Parlor on Monday evenings from 6:30 - 8 PM (no later), on the following nights: April 18 and 25; May 16, 23 and 30; June 6. Please bring a Bible or be sure to borrow one from within the Cathedral. The NRSV is preferred.

Parenting in Faith: A 4 Part Forum and Book Study:

Using the book "Reclaiming Youth at Risk", by the Rev. Dr. Martin Brokenleg, et al, [ISBN # 1879639866] as a point of departure, we will spend some time examining the tricky passages of both childhood and parenting. In particular we shall explore Brokenleg's theory, based on more than 3 decades of work and research, regarding the central milestones which lead through adolescence, toward maturity and adulthood. Please be sure to purchase a copy of the book, though we will not follow it page-by page during our time together. You may also wish to access the website at www.reclaiming.com for many more resources and materials of interest. We will meet in the Uppercroft from 11:45 - 1 PM on Sundays April 17 and April 24; Sundays May 8 and May 15.

"Thanks" For Diocesan Grant

St. Stephen's has received a Congregational Development Grant of \$1,500, specifically directed toward Youth Ministry here at the Cathedral. We give "thanks", as one, for the generosity of the Diocese and its leaders. Please help us, as a community, to pray about and discern the most efficient and wise use of this generous offering. ~ Mark

A Place at the Table – The Fifth in a Series

"The Burkholders and the Clemmers have postponed their Place at the Table dinner until next fall."

Would you like the Convenience of 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.

Update on the Greenfields

Carol Greenfield has returned home to 122 Greenview Dr. Lancaster, PA 17601. Feel free to drop her and Pete a note to let them know of your love and prayers. Carol is being cared for by Pete, friends, family and care-givers since a stroke at the end of January.



Cathedral Church of Saint Stephen
and Cathedral House
Harrisburg, PA

the CATHEDRAL MESSENGER

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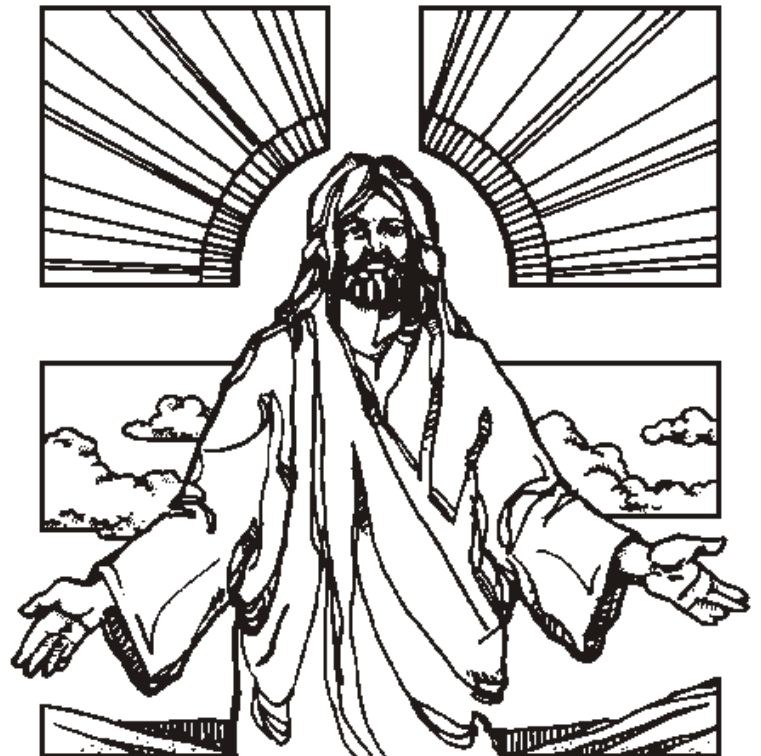
TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

PARISH LEADERSHIP

Bishop
Interim Dean
Canon Pastor
Parish Nurse
Deacon Emeritus
Minister of Music
Hospitality Coordinator
Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Vestry: Helen Delano
Joan Esham
Warren Gillam
Gene McHugh
Guy Patterson

Parish Treasurer
Vestry Secretary
Worship Ministry
Education Ministry
Evangelism Ministry
Outreach Coordinating Ministry
Parish Health Ministry
Stewardship Ministry
Finance Ministry
Property Committee
Environmental Stewardship
Arts and Drama Committee
St. Stephen's School
Acolyte Warden
Sunday School Coordinators
"Seeds of Faith" Manager
Altar Guild
Flower Guild
Usbers
Nursery
Youth Coordinator

Michael Creighton
Mark H. Hatch
Daphne S. K. Messersmith
Liz Fite
Paul Williams
Michael Shoemaker
Judy Clemmer
Mary Jane Forbes-Schmidt
Ann Elliott
Mike Pasenelli
Lynn Schadle
Linda Shorey
Peter Tartline
Harry Weber
Bill Davis
Greg Penny
Jane Bartholomew
Becky Tartline
Ted Webber
Betsy Howell, Bill Ilgenfritz
Helen Hendrickson
Mary Jane Forbes-Schmidt
Wil Everhart
Joan Esham
Jeff Spangler
Ann Elliott
Carol Lopus
Greg Penny
John and Ellen Harles
Kathyann Corl-Rodeheaver
Margaret Messner
Sandy Strohl
Michael Frascella
Carolyn Patterson
Shannon Powers



**“Why do you look for the living
among the dead?
He is not here but has risen.”**
Luke 24:5