

THE BELLRINGER

FEBRUARY 2013

THE "SO WHAT" QUESTION

At the end of January, I attended the Annual Council of the Diocese of Virginia. The keynote speaker was J. Clif Christopher author of "Not Your Parent's Offering Plate". He was a very dynamic speaker with very challenging words for the current state of our churches. The world is very different than it was a generation ago but the church's approaches haven't changed at all. His bottom line thesis is that people will join a church and contribute to a church if they feel it makes a difference in their personal lives and is making a difference in the world. Churches need to be asking themselves the question about their existence, "So what?" At this point in St. Dunstan's history, asking this question will be a very helpful exercise in continuing to establish a clear vision and plan for our future.

What are the ways we make a difference in the lives of those who consider themselves to be members of St. Dunstan's? We educate our children in the Christian faith taking them from baptism to confirmation and hopefully beyond. I am thankful for so many committed volunteers who

are involved in this education effort. Periodically we need to step back and review the curriculum and programs for our young people and ask are they still relevant, still engaging, and still making a difference in the ways our children know and live the faith. Does that education stop with confirmation? How do we as church cultivate the curiosity and discipleship of adults of all ages? St. Dunstan's makes a difference in people's lives through worship. Perhaps it is time to evaluate our worship space and service offerings and figure out if we are providing a sacred space for worshipers to encounter the Living God and to praise God.

We make a difference in the world through mission and outreach. St. Dunstan's is very active locally in our support of SHARE. I am thankful for the generosity of our parishioners in donating funds to help numerous outreach efforts in our area. Is there more we can do in outreach that can engage us relationally with those in need in the community? I am very excited that we will be entering the Carpenter's Kids Program in Tanzania. This opportunity will allow

us to build a relationship with a school/church/village and transform lives in the developing world as our lives will also be transformed by this new relationship. How else can we make a difference locally and internationally so that we might make a bolder answer to the "so what" question?

There is a foundational "so what?" question upon which everything that has preceded this paragraph is based. Jesus Christ died for our sins on a cross and was resurrected conquering death and providing eternal relationship with God. So what? Does this matter in our lives? Does this Good News transformed the way we look at ourselves and others? Does this news motivate our actions and form a sense of purpose in our lives? The "so what" question is not one of condemnation or judgment but a question of possibility and hope. It is a query that reminds us of God's love and the amazing opportunities to change us and the world we live in.

Stephen +

MAKING SENSE OF THE CROSS

2013 Lenten Series



**Wednesdays, Feb. 20-Mar. 27, Parish Hall
6:15 pm - Potluck Lenten Supper
7:00 pm - Lenten Program**

Why did Jesus die on the cross?
Did Jesus even have to die?
What have other Christians believed about the meaning of the cross?
What does Jesus' death mean for us today?

In this course, (developed by David Lose), we will explore the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross. We will examine what Scripture has to say, 3 traditional theories of why Jesus died on the cross, (including the strengths and weaknesses of each theory), and what Jesus' death means for us.

No previous knowledge of the Bible or theology is required!

Even if you can only attend 1 or 2 sessions, join us! If you can attend most or all sessions, then consider purchasing a copy of the participant book, "Making Sense of the Cross" by David Lose. It is not necessary to read ahead or on your own, but for some people it might enrich their experience. The book is available at Amazon.com, AugsburgFortress.com, and the e-book is available on Kindle. There will be some copies available in the church office as well.

Rev. Anna Scherer will be leading the sessions which will include watching lectures by David Lose, reading Scripture, and engaging in discussion. Questions are encouraged!

Feb. 20 – Session 1: A Man Hanging on a Tree
Feb. 27 – Session 2: Portraits and Perspectives
Mar. 6 – Session 3: Ransom and Victory
Mar. 13 – Session 4: Substitution, Satisfaction, and Sacrifice
Mar. 20 – Session 5: Example and Encouragement
Mar. 27 – Session 6: Event and Experience

(David J. Lose holds the Marbury E. Anderson Chair in Biblical Preaching and serves as Director of the Center for Biblical Preaching at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota.)

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

By Gray Snead, DCE

Journey to Adulthood Calendar

Rite 13 -- Feb. 3, and 17;

J2A – Feb. 10, 24;

YAC – Feb. 10, "Eat, Pray, Love"
6-8pm, and Feb. 24 after the
10:15 service

Bowling with the Rector

Sunday, February 10th, 6-8pm

All participants from Rite-13, j2a, and YAC are invited to come out for an evening of fun, and group fellowship at the Bowl America lanes in Falls Church. Wearing your own bowling shirt and shoes isn't required, but definitely *encouraged*. Join us for the fun.

30 Hour Famine

February 22-23

St. Timothy's in Herndon is hosting an event that provides youth the opportunity to participate in unique activities that help them learn about the realities of world hunger. Other Region V Churches and youth in our area are planning to participate. If interested, contact Gray for more details.



Ice Skating at Washington Harbor

The Journey to Adulthood youth and parents enjoyed a fun afternoon ice skating on Washington's Inner Harbor Ice Outdoor Ice Rink in Georgetown. It was a fine afternoon to share laughter, smiles, yummy cookies, while watching so many of our talented skaters on the ice. A fun time for all! We hope you can join us next time!



Sandwiches for Martha's Table

During the annual meeting, youth and parent volunteers joined together to make over 400 sandwiches (!) to donate through Martha's Table, an organization that provides food for the needy, in DC. We also donated many loaves of bread and cheese. Many, many thanks go out to those who helped prepare sandwiches and donate items.

THE HISTORY OF ST DUNSTAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 1958-1961

By George Burghardt

It was quite clear that by 1957 the growth of the church was such that the Chesterbrook School space was no longer big enough. The first major undertaking of the new congregation was the planning and building of the parish hall. A planning and building committee was formed and they chose Mr. Donald J. Olivola as the architect. A building fund campaign produced sufficient pledges to make the necessary construction loans available with the help of the diocese.

The land the church sits on has a interesting history. James H. Tayman and Ruth O. Tayman conveyed the property to the church in 1957. They had bought this 5 acre tract from Hugh H. and Carrie Dobson on October 19, 1920 for a price of \$500.00 payable over 18 months @ 6% interest. This parcel was part of a 47 acre tract owned by the Dobsons. The road in front of the church has had several names and in 1920 it was Falls Church Road. On February 17, 1922 the land was conveyed to two trustees because the Taymans had defaulted on the note. William and Adele Dobson had purchased the tract from the trustees and on February 15, 1953 they sold the land back to the Taymans for "10.00 and other consideration". The address is now called Chesterbrook Road. On

June 20, 1957 James and Ruth Tayman sold this 5 acres to John Brock, Calvin Jones and William Welis, trustees of St Dunstan's Church for "\$10.00 and other consideration". The address is now Kirby Road.

This transaction between the Taymans and St. Dunstan's did not include the less than a half acre lot the Tayman house sits on. On May 3, 1978 Ruth Tayman, now a widow, signed a sales contract to sell to St. Dunstan's the lot and the house for \$75,000.00. The deed was recorded on June 1, 1978 and the land that is now St. Dunstan's is complete.

This young and eager congregation now had the land and the funds and a ground breaking ceremony was held on March 30, 1958. Construction started that spring and it was a most joyous Christmas when St. Dunstan's celebrated their first service on Christmas, 1958. After Mr. Phipard's death in December 1959, the parish hall was given his name by the Vestry as a memorial of his important and tireless services to the church.

By the end of 1959 the Diocese decided that St. Dunstan's was able to take complete responsibility for its own financial support. This increased liability was a considerable burden for the new church to carry, the load was as-

sumed, and St. Dunstan's became financially independent of the Diocese in a shorter period than any other mission church then on record. In another action by the Diocese, in its meeting in January 1961 the Council of the Diocese voted to recognize St. Dunstan's as an independent congregation with complete control of its affairs, sharing the Langley Parish with St. John's, McLean.

Except for the land details, the above information was taken from "St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, Fifteen Years – 1967- 1971". The following pictures were taken from "St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church 50th Anniversary, 1956 – 2006". The earlier version had the ground breaking for the Parish Hall in March of 1958 and the first service on Christmas 1958. The captions on the pictures differ some.

Notice in the picture with the congregation, the altar is at the end of the Parish Hall opposite from the large windows. Next time you are in the Parish Hall, look up at that big white triangle behind the altar. It is full of crosses.

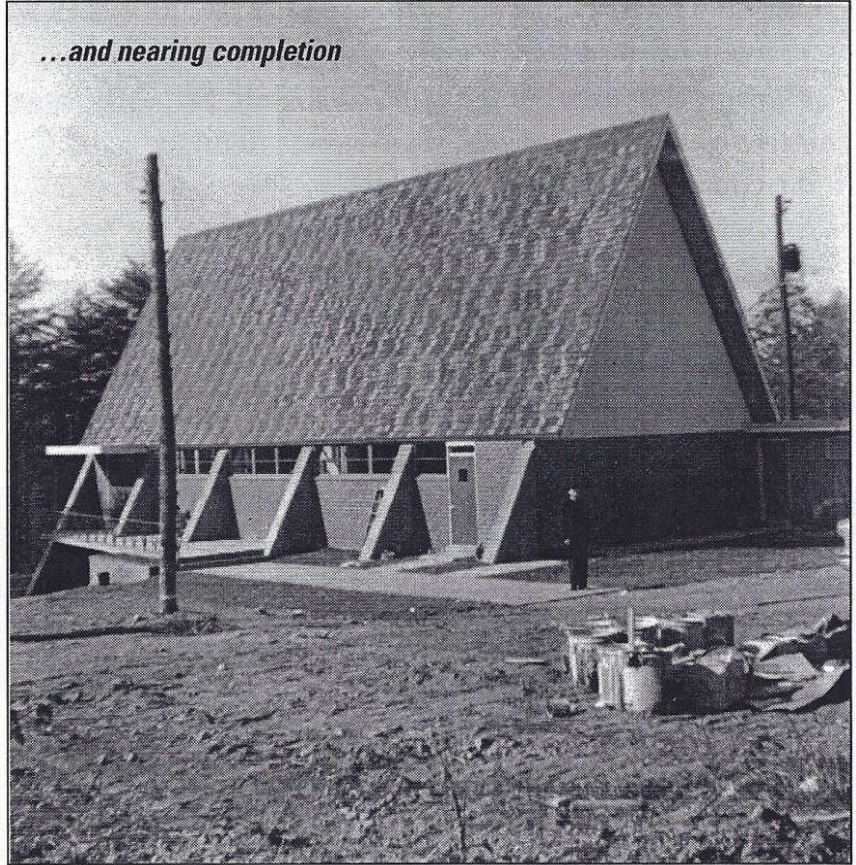
There are 2 plaques in the Parish hall that commemorate some of the early history. The Charles Phipard plaque is on the outside just to the left of the door that is usually used. The Robert F. Kennedy plaque is on the inside on the wall facing Kirby road near where the altar used to be.

ST DUNSTAN'S PHOTO ALBUM

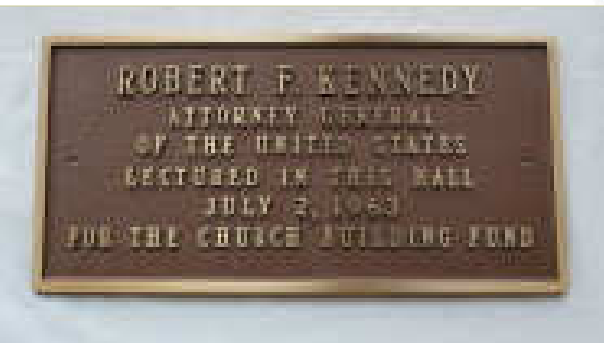
Photos From: *The History of St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church Story 1958-1961* by George Burghardt (See previous page)



The groundbreaking for the Parish Hall, 1957...



...and nearing completion



The first service in the Parish Hall, Dec. 7, 1958

UPCOMING EVENTS AND SERVICES

YOUNG ADULTS FELLOWSHIP **Monday, February 11** **7:00 PM**

This is a group of folks in their 20s and 30s from various Episcopal Churches in our region who enjoy a cold beer, deep theological discussions, and fellowship. We meet about twice a month at Ireland's Four Provinces in Falls Church to talk about our faith and to hang out.

Our new book is *The Wisdom of Stability: Rooting Faith in a Mobile Culture* by Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove. For more information, either visit our Facebook page or contact Rev. Anna Scherer at ascherer@stdunstans.net

OUTREACH MEETING **Tuesday, February 5** **6:30 PM**

We will meet in the conference room.



BOWLING **WITH THE RECTOR** **Sunday February 10, 6-8pm**

All participants from Rite-13, j2a, and YAC are invited to come out for an evening of fun, and group fellowship at the Bowl America lanes in Falls Church. Wearing your own bowling shirt and shoes isn't required, but definitely encouraged. Join us for the fun.



SHROVE TUESDAY **Pancake Supper** **February 12, 6:00 PM**

Come celebrate Shrove Tuesday with an abundance of pancakes and sausages served up in the

Parish Hall. In preparation for Lent, the children will engage in a special activity to bid farewell to "alleluia".

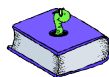


ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES **Wednesday, February 13** Noon in the Chapel & 7 PM in the Sanctuary

LUNCH BUNCH **Wednesday, February 20** Noon

Kazan Restaurant

Please note we changed Lunch Bunch to the third Wednesday because the second Wednesday is Ash Wednesday with a church service at noon. Our restaurant is a favorite-the Kazan Restaurant, McLean (next to the Giant). The carpool leaves the Church parking lot at 11:40 AM. Please come and bring a friend. Contact Helen Vogel (703) 534-4877



BOOKWORMS **Saturday, February 16** **10:00 AM at the Hopkins'**

Our selection for February is the classic, Ethan Frome by Edith Wharton. We all had to read it in school-let's see if our opinions are the same. It's a domestic tragedy taking place in the late nineteenth century in Massachusetts. Told in less than two hundred pages, it's a tragic story of three peoples' wasted lives. Although we know that the story is to have an unhappy ending, the author's crushing use of irony makes the conclusion come as a surprise.

Our book for March 16 is the New York Times bestseller Cloud Atlas by David Mitchell **It is 500 pages so let's start now!**

-Helen Vogel (703)534-4877

FROM REPENTANCE TO HOPE: **Saturday, February 16** **10 AM St. Georges Church**

On Saturday, February 16, members of the Diocese will join together at St. George's, Fredericksburg in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. This event will include a litany of repentance, led by our own Bishop Johnston, and a Celebration of Hope led by the presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church, the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori.

Mayor Mary Katherine Greenlaw of Fredericksburg and the Rev. Lawrence Davies, former mayor and former pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church, will lead attendees in a Witness Walk to the city's former slave auction block for the dedication of a new sculpture representing freedom and hope.

This event for all members of the Diocese is free and open to the public. The service will start at 10 a.m. at St. George's in downtown Fredericksburg.

BISHOP VISITATION **AND CONFIRMATION** **Sunday, March 3, 10:15**

Bishop Susan Goff will be making her first visit to St. Dunstan's on Sunday, March 3rd. We will only have the 10:15 service that day so the entire congregation can celebrate with those being confirmed and welcome Bishop. **(No 8:15 AM Service on Jan. 27)**

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS—JANUARY 2013

Financial 2012 Report and Budget 2013

Dave Graling provided an overview of the budget, noting that a strong December has led to pledges that are slightly higher than the budget. Dave then walked Vestry members through the income and expenditures, noting that we ended the year with an operating surplus of \$19,659. The 2013 Budget was approved and ready to be presented at the Annual Meeting.

Jr. Wardens Report

Lights for the street sign and parking lot lights were replaced. The Common Room renovation will begin when Brookfield leaves on their Christmas break. The new boiler and water tank estimates are expected this week. The recommendation of the furnace company is to leave the existing water tank in place and locate the new tank behind it, rather than attempt to remove the asbestos laden tank

and pay for asbestos abatement. Estimates for water erosion control in the Memorial Garden are being gathered. The Junior Warden's note book and schedule should be completed by month's end. There will be a new gas line that will run along the Tayman property.

Website Development

The next step in the website development is enabling online donations and pledge payments. Perry will ask Ken Anderson and Barbara Everhart to establish a Pay Pal account.

Outreach

The outreach committee will pursue connecting with the Carpenter's Kids program in Tanzania. This program helps us to support a specific village/school with the education of the children. It is a minimum five year commitment. More details soon to follow.

Rector Report

Bishop Susan Goff will visit the church March 3, 2013. We will have one joint service at 10:15. Vinson Hall has rented 30 spaces at the end of the parking lot for staff parking while their new parking garage is being built. They will need the space through April. Kay McLaughlin's funeral is January 23rd at 11:00 a.m. She was a founding member of the church.

Stephen has interviewed a seminarian for a two year commitment beginning in September 2013. Our current seminarian Connor Newlun is finishing up his term and will be ordained a Deacon in June. The Annual Meeting is January 27, 2013.

Full copies of the Vestry Meeting minutes are posted on the Parish Hall bulletin board.

The next Vestry Meeting will be Tuesday, February 19, 2013 at 7:00 in the Undercroft.

OUTREACH –A NOTE FROM MARTHA'S TABLE

Dear St. Dunstan's Parishioners,

On behalf of all of us at Martha's Table, I want to thank you for your generous gift of \$1,200.00 in December 2012. Martha's Table finds solutions to poverty in the short term with food and clothing programs and in the long term by breaking the cycle of poverty with

education and family strengthening programs. We will use your donation to produce strong outcomes in our community.

We at Martha's Table will be redoubling our efforts in 2013 to ensure that every resident of the District has the opportunity to enjoy a healthy and productive life. Your

contribution to this effort helps enormously. Martha's Table helps more than 1,100 people a day. We could not do our work without your support, and we thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Bartscherer

PARISH REGISTER

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



2/5 Catherine Beauchamp
2/7 Sonia Barden
2/8 Lizzie Gibson


2/10 Jonathan Jester
2/12 Helen Vogel
2/12 Grant Yungner
2/21 Todd Brethauer
2/24 Joseph Ambrosius
2/27 Clayton Postelle
2/27 Martha Taishoff
2/28 Linda Postelle

BAPTISMS



Emilie Nicole Annand

January 13, 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Ash Wednesday is February 13					1	2
3 8:15 AM HE Rite I & Healing 10 AM Sunday School & Rite 13 Joy and Praise Choirs Sing 10:15 AM HE Rite II & Healing	4 7 PM Scouts #652/Parish Hall	5 7:00 PM Centering Prayer/ Chapel	6 10:30 AM Bible Study/CNF Rm. 6:15 PM EFM/Common Rm. 6:30 PM Bible Study/Seely	7 6:15 PM Joy Choir/PH 6:45 PM Praise Choir/PH 7:30 PM Praise Choir/PH	8 8:30 PM AA/ Common Room	9
10 8:15 AM HE Rite I 10 AM Sunday School & J2A 10:15 HE Rite II 11:45 AM Spirit Choir /Sanctuary 6-8 PM Bowling with the Rector 6-8 PM YAC Parish Hall	11 7PM Young Adult Fellowship/Ireland 4 Provinces 7 PM Scouts #652/Parish Hall	 Shrove Tuesday 6 PM Pancake Supper/PH EFM following Supper 7 PM Centering Prayer/ Chapel	 Ash Wednesday Services Noon in the Chapel 7 PM in the Sanctuary	14 6:15 PM Joy Choir/PH 6:45 PM Praise Choir/PH 7:30 PM Adult Choir/UC	15 8:30 PM AA/ Common Room	16 9 AM-Noon-MYO 10:AM Book-worms/ Hopkins' Home
17 8:15 AM HE Rite I & Healing 10 AM Sunday School & Rite 13 10:15 AM HE Rite II & Healing	18 7 PM Scouts #652/Parish Hall	19 7 PM Vestry Meeting/UC 7 PM Centering Prayer/ Chapel	20 10:30 AM Bible Study/CNF Rm. Noon Lunch Bunch  Lenten Series 6:15 PM Pot Luck Supper 7:00 PM Program 8 PM EFM/Conference Room	21 6:15 PM Joy Choir/PH 6:45 PM Praise Choir/PH 7:30 PM Adult Choir/UC	22 8:30 PM AA/ Common Room	23 9 AM-Noon-MYO
24 8:15 AM HE Rite I 10 AM Sun. School & J2A 10:15 HE Rite II 11:45 AM Spirit Choir II/Sanctuary YAC	25 7 PM Scouts #652/Parish Hall	26 7 PM Centering Prayer/ Chapel	27 10:30 AM Bible Study/CNF Rm.  Lenten Series 6:15 PM Pot Luck Supper 7 PM Program 8 PM EFM/Conference Room	28 6:15 PM Joy Choir/PH 6:45 PM Praise Choir/PH 7:30 PM Adult Choir/UC	<p style="text-align: center;">Bishop Visitation & Confirmation on Sunday, March 3 at 10:15 AM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reminder: No 8:15 AM Service on March 3</p> <p>We will only have the 10:15 service this day so the entire congregation can celebrate with those being confirmed and welcome Bishop Goff.</p>	

CONTACT US

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**The Rev. Anna M. Scherer, Asst. Rector
Email: ascherer@stdunstans.net**

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