

THE BELLRINGER

MARCH 2013

REFLECTIONS ON CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Last year when the diocese moved our annual bishop's visit from the fall to the winter I was worried the oddity of having a celebration of confirmations in the midst of the somber season of Lent. How would it feel to have the penitential color of purple suddenly transformed to the festive Holy Spirit filled red vestments and altar hangings. Even though the mood and focus of the service isn't exactly Lent-like there is a part of the confirmation service that sums up our Lenten experience. After the candidates for confirmation are presented, the bishop asks them, "Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil? The response is, "I do." Then the bishop asks, "Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?" The candidates respond "I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord." In their public proclamation of their Christian faith, the confirmation candidates give voice to the essence of our time of preparation in Lent. We recognize the effects of sin and evil on our lives and turn back (repent) to a recommitment to our relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Here are a couple of other thoughts from Confirmation Sunday.

For the young people who were confirmed from the Journey to Adulthood program, the day marked a culmination of many years of preparing through our

Sunday School Programs. Sunday marks a milestone in their Christian journey not a conclusion. What opportunities can St. Dunstan's provide for these young people to continue to grow in their faith and live their faith through word and action? How can we encourage them to use their gifts in the life of the church? How do we model for these young people what a post-confirmation life looks like? We can do this by being people who are curious about our faith and realize learning never stops. We model living the faith in how we treat each other and make a difference in the world through action.

As we welcomed Bishop Susan Goff, I realized that Sunday may have been the first time we have ever had a female bishop at St. Dunstan's. Bishop Goff is the first female bishop in Virginia and one of only a handful in the Episcopal Church. Hooray, the Episcopal Church is catching up with the rest of our society. I really hadn't thought about the impact of Bishop Goff being a woman might have until I saw the excitement on couple of young girls who were so excited the bishop was coming but were even more excited the bishop is a woman. How wonderful these young girls can look at Bishop Goff and know that if so called bishop in the Episcopal

Church is a possibility for their lives. It is the same type of witness that Reverend Scherer provides every Sunday for the young woman at St. Dunstan's, a witness of opportunity.

The last reflection I want to share comes from Bishop Goff. She shared that she found St. Dunstan's to be a very welcoming church with a lot of positive energy. She was particularly struck with the diversity of ages at the church. I find these types of observations from a visitor to be very helpful and encouraging. Comments like these tell me St. Dunstan's is on the right track. Much like the folks who were confirmed, we have reached a marker on our journey not an ending place. I hope this time of the Bishop's visit provides us a chance to step back and see that there are a lot of good things happening at St. Dunstan's and to remember that God has so many more wonderful opportunities waiting for us ahead. Congratulations to those who were confirmed and may we walk together growing in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Stephen +

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

By Gray Snead, DCE

Journey to Adulthood Meetings

Rite 13 -- March 17;

J2A – March 10 & 24

YAC – March 10, "Eat, Pray, Love" Place & Time TBD; and March 24 Outreach after the 10:15 service

Bowling with the Rector

Many of you came out to challenge our Very Reverend Fr. Steve to a game (or two) of ten pin. None of the utes could topple him. From the sound of the laughter, and the looks of the smiles, it didn't seem to matter. Even food could pry the bowlers from perfecting their south paw strikes, and picking up the splits. You always know it was fun when you realize how fast the time slipped by. Looking forward to more fun times, and more participants next. Stay tuned!

Shrove Tuesday Hiding the Alleluia

I don't know about you, but I ate too many pancakes and sausage on Shrove Tuesday. I couldn't help myself, they were so yummy. And, who could say no when a platter full just showed up at your table? The youth, as always, were enthusiastic as they led the room in song, shared prayer and readings with Fr. Steve, and planted (hid) the Alleluia. We're looking forward to Easter to share in what they've grown. **Thank You** to Glen Seely, Janet Adams, and Russell Jackson for their help getting materials and supplies, setting up, and of course helping the youth with the plantings.

Maundy Thursday
Thursday, March 28
7 PM Service
In the Sanctuary

Good Friday Services

Friday, March 29

Noon Service/Sanctuary
1:00 pm Stations of the Cross

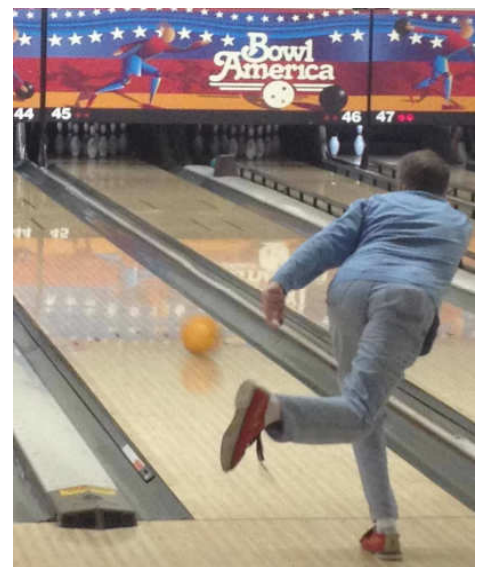
4:00 PM—Children's Stations of the Cross/ Sanctuary

7:00 PM Service/Chapel

Easter Service
Sunday, March 30
10:15 AM HE Rite II

St. Dunstan's Easter Egg Hunt!

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt following the 10:15 am Easter Service. Bring your favorite Easter Basket.



Three Strikes in a Row!

THE HISTORY OF ST DUNSTAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 1962-1964

By George Burghardt

Through the middle years of its first decade, the church continued to benefit from its location in an area of rapid development and from the reputation it had established of being hospitable, friendly and vigorous. At the end of 1962, the number of communicants had increased to 527 and families to 231.

The Parish Hall completed in 1958, had already become inadequate with many people standing at both Sunday services. The need for more space was so pressing that the vestry began to talk of building the main church much earlier than had been thought possible. During 1962 and 1963 the question of a new building was debated. Estimates of some \$300,000 for new construction made it seem very difficult for the still young and heavily indebted congregation. After much debate, the general plan of constructing the new church and an addition of an educational wing to the Parish Hall was approved. The plan was now subject to the congregation pledging \$90,000 for the building fund and being able to

obtain a large enough construction loan and first trust to make the construction possible.

The Building Committee was formed and after an extensive investigation of other churches in the area and the financial condition of the church, the committee strongly recommended to proceed with the construction. Mr. Donald Olivola (architect of the Parish Hall) was selected as the architect and was authorized to prepare plans even before it was assured we could proceed with construction. By the spring of 1963, the \$90,000 pledge was almost complete with three year pledges. This, together with the good record of the church in meeting its obligations, the excellent outlook for continued growth and an appraisal of the completed project and land at \$431,000 made possible a construction loan and a 5 ¼% first trust for \$300,000 so the construction as planned could go forward immediately.

In designing the new church building, the architect and building committee had 3 simple goals.

⇒ They wanted a building within their means but large

enough to seat at least 500 people with some overflow capacity. This appeared to require floor space of about 6000 square feet.

⇒ In order to have space for large social and other events, storage space, a common room, robing rooms and lavatories, it was decided to include a full basement.

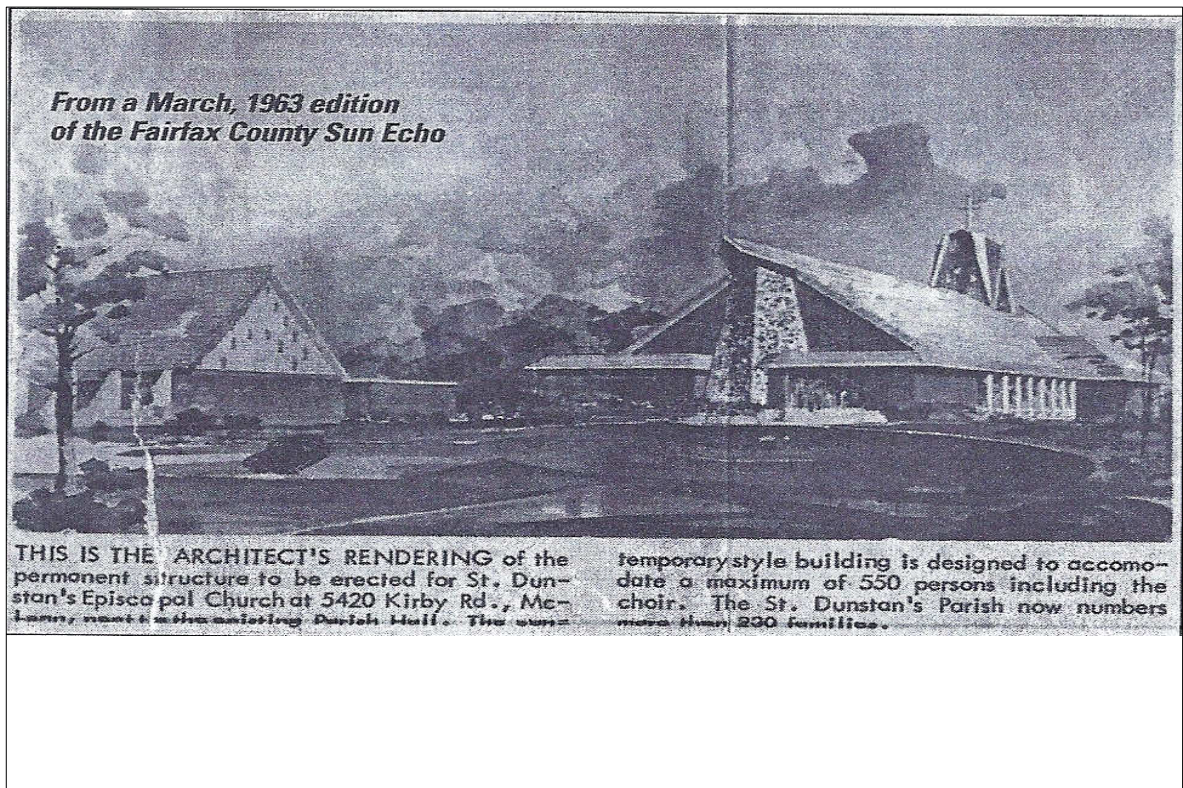
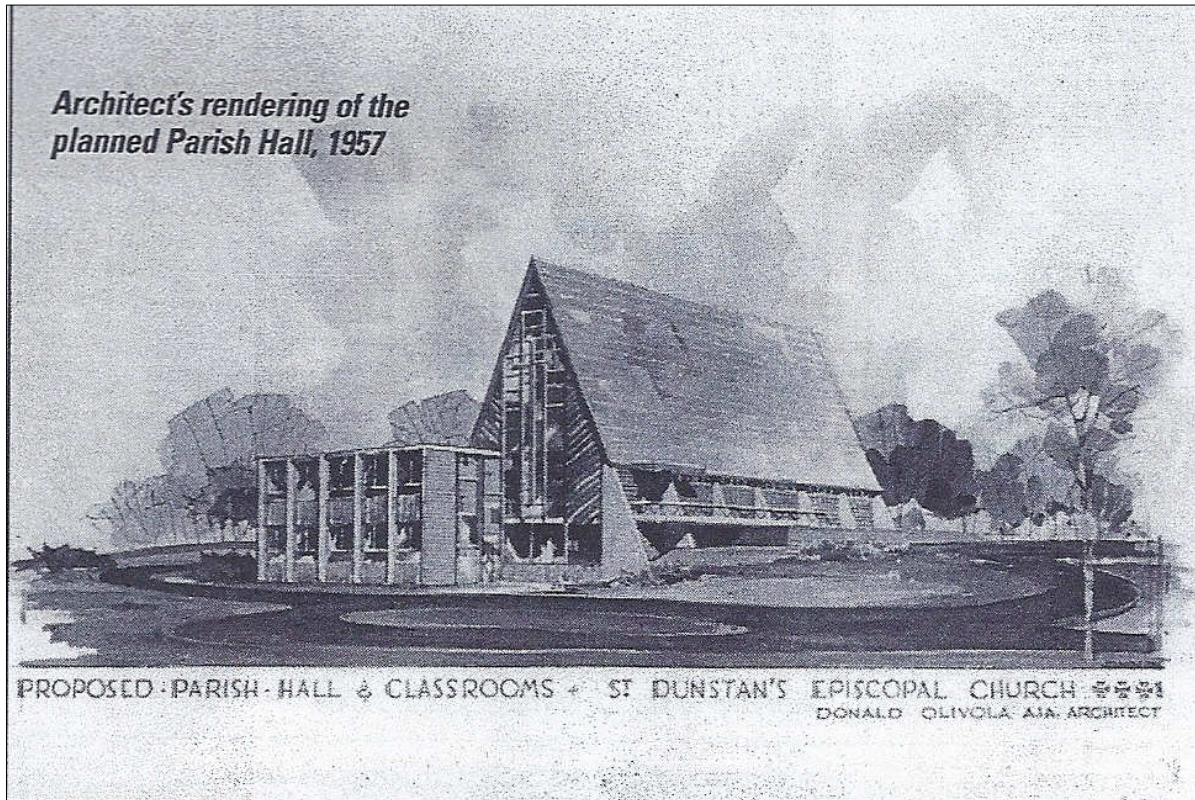
⇒ They wanted a building that reflected the long tradition of church design and yet modern, to be efficient and adaptable in functional use.

It was felt at the time of conception and completion that the architect, Mr. Olivola and the building committee achieved those goals.

After the formal ground breaking on May 19, 1963 work began in the fall of 1963 and the building was substantially completed and ready for use by the fall of 1964. On October 18, 1964 the first church services were held in the new church. The resulting building has been widely praised for its structural beauty, reverent atmosphere and its functional efficiency.

ST DUNSTAN'S PHOTO ALBUM

Photos From: *The History of St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church Story 1962-1964* by George Burghardt (See previous page)



UPCOMING EVENTS AND SERVICES

MAKING SENSE OF THE CROSS

2013 Lenten Series



Wednesdays, Feb. 20-Mar. 27
6:15 pm

Potluck Lenten Supper
7:00 pm - Lenten Program
In the Parish Hall

All are welcome to both the potluck supper and the Lenten program (and coming to just one of them is fine too)! No previous knowledge of the Bible or theology is required for the Lenten program.

In this Lenten program, (developed by David Lose), we are exploring the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross. This Wednesday Feb. 27th, we will be exploring what the four Gospels have to say about Jesus and the cross. There is a sheet in the vestibule with suggestions on activities that you might find helpful in preparing for Wednesday's class.

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. There are still a few copies available for purchase in the church office.

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.

YOUNG ADULTS FELLOWSHIP Monday, March 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 current 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

LUNCH BUNCH Wednesday, March 13 Noon Absolute Thai

Our restaurant, Absolute Thai, is in the same location as The Greek Taverna only two floors up. Parking is underground. 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, March 16 10:00 AM at the Hopkins'

Our March selection is *Cloud Atlas* by David Mitchell, a New York Times bestseller. The Novel as a series of nested dolls or Chinese boxes is not just dazzling and clever but heartbreaking and passionate too. The result is brilliantly original fiction that reveals how disparate people connect, how their fates intertwine, and how their souls drift across time like clouds across the sky.

-Helen Vogel (703)534-4877

HOLY WEEK SERVICES



MAUNDY THURSDAY Thursday, March 28 7 PM Service

The service will be held in the sanctuary at 7:00 pm.



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES Friday, March 29

Noon Service/Sanctuary
1:00 pm Stations of the Cross
4:00 PM—Children's Stations of the Cross/Sanctuary
7:00 PM Service/Chapel



EASTER SERVICE Sunday, March 30 10:15 AM HE Rite II

St. Dunstan's Easter Egg Hunt!
There will be an Easter Egg Hunt following the 10:15 am Easter Service. Bring your favorite Easter Basket.



A VISIT FROM BISHOP GOFF- MARCH 3



Pictures from our Bishop's Visitation

Top Left- Picture of our confirmands

Right- Sharing The Story with Bishop Goff



MARCH BIRTHDAYS



3/1 Whitley Savage
3/4 Jim Buttz
3/8 Lizzie Gibson
3/5 Russel Keck
3/6 Sam Johnston
3/9 George Burghardt
3/9 Lilian Lindquist
3/15 Tony Griffin
3/15 Jon Spear
3/16 Jane Langmaid
3/16 Sadie Postelle

3/17 Judy Schaub
3/17 Suzan Yungner
3/19 Liam Savage
3/20 Elizabeth Dunn
3/21 Turner Rose
3/22 Desmond Curran
3/22 Louisa Dietrich
3/22 Zachariah Raehn
3/25 Lisa Irons
3/25 Janet Malcolm
3/28 Justin Upp
3/31 Shannon Postelle

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church

March 3, 2012

Congratulations

Confirmands:
Hannah Aronson
Anna Close
Desmond Curran,
Kathryn Derby
Claire Lee
Kelly Oler
Jacob Russo
Tom Shue
Erin Brahms
Michael Davidson
Madelyn Raynor
Alexandra Raynor

Received:
Hal and Carol Saunders

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<p>3 <i>Lent III</i> Bishop Visitation and Confirmation 10:15 AM HE Rite II & Healing 10 AM Sunday School Joy and Praise Choirs Sing 10:15 AM HE Rite II & Healing</p>	<p>4 7 PM Scouts #652/Parish Hall</p>	<p>5 7 PM Centering Prayer/ Chapel</p>	<p>6 10:30 AM Bible Study/CNF Rm.  <i>Lenten Series</i> 6:15 PM Pot Luck Supper 7:00 PM Program 8 PM EFM/Conference Room</p>	<p>7 6:15 PM Joy Choir/PH 6:45 PM Praise Choir/PH 7:30 PM Praise Choir/PH</p>	<p>8 8:30 PM AA/ Common Room</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10 <i>Lent IV</i> 8:15 AM HE Rite I 10 AM Sunday School & J2A 10:15 HE Rite I 11:45 AM Spirit Choir /Sanctuary 6-8 PM YAC Parish Hall</p>	<p>11 7PM Young Adult Fellowship/Ireland 4 Provinces 7 PM Scouts #652/Parish Hall</p>	<p>12 7 PM Centering Prayer/ Chapel 7 PM Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>13 10:30 AM Bible Study/CNF Rm. Noon Lunch Bunch/Absolute Thai  <i>Lenten Series</i> 6:15 PM Pot Luck Supper 7:00 PM Program 8 PM EFM/Conference Room</p>	<p>14 6:15 PM Joy Choir/PH 6:45 PM Praise Choir/PH 7:30 PM Adult Choir/UC</p>	<p>15 8:30 PM AA/ Common Room</p>	<p>16 9 AM-Noon- MYO 10 AM Bookworms/ Hopkins' Home</p>
<p>17 <i>Lent V</i> 8:15 AM HE Rite I & Healing 10 AM Sunday School & Rite 13 10:15 AM HE Rite II & Healing</p>	<p>18 7 PM Scouts #652/Parish Hall</p>	<p>19 7 PM Centering Prayer/ Chapel</p>	<p>20 10:30 AM Bible Study/CNF Rm.  <i>Lenten Series</i> 6:15 PM Pot Luck Supper 7:00 PM Program 8 PM EFM/Conference Room</p>	<p>21 6:15 PM Joy Choir/PH 6:45 PM Praise Choir/PH 7:30 PM Adult Choir/UC</p>	<p>22 8:30 PM AA/ Common Room</p>	<p>23 9 AM-Noon- MYO</p>
<p>24 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 8:15 AM HE Rite I 10 AM Sun. School & J2A 10:15 HE Rite II 11:45 AM Spirit Choir & YAC</p> <p></p> <hr/> <p> <i>Easter Day</i> 31 10:15 AM HE Rite II Easter Egg Hunt</p>	<p>25 7 PM Scouts #652/Parish Hall</p>	<p>26 7 PM Centering Prayer/ Chapel</p>	<p>27 10:30 AM Bible Study/CNF Rm.  <i>Lenten Series</i> 6:15 PM Pot Luck Supper 7 PM Program 8 PM EFM/Conference Room</p>	<p>28 <i>Maunder Thursday</i>  7 PM Service</p>	<p>29 <i>Good Friday</i>  Noon Service & IPM Stations of the Cross 4 PM Children's Service 7 PM Service</p>	<p>30</p>

CONTACT US

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