



From the Rector

Don't be fooled by the name of the event. The business of the "Annual Meeting" is community. The agenda is celebration. The focus is future! So plan to be part of the gathering February 13 immediately following the 10:30 service!

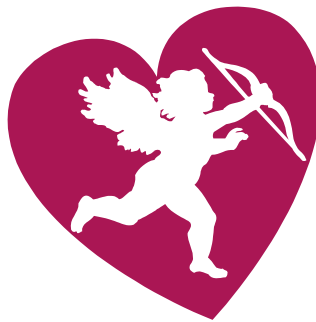
Actually, February 13 is a pretty big day. It's the first Sunday of Lent. (Get ready for the sung Great Litany!) It's the feast of Absalom Jones, the first African-American to be ordained a priest. And it's the day before Valentine's Day!

We're going to do a little hymn singing at the Annual Meeting, just to get ourselves in a celebratory mood. If it seems odd to *celebrate* Lent, then consider that we'll sing a musical valentine from the *Lift Every Voice and Sing* hymnal. The words are so simple you could print them on a candy heart, but they speak for the heart of God.

"O how He loves you and me. O how He loves you and me. He gave his life; what more could He give? O how He loves *you*. O how He loves *me*. O how He loves *you and me!*"

The good news that Jesus loves you and me is the heart of our congregational life -- a life that we

invite others to share with us. The "table talk" over lunch will focus on how all of us participate in the ministry of Christ's hospitality. Each of us has our own story about how we were first drawn to St. George's. Each of us is a member of the welcome team for those who are looking for God's love in a church community. In considering how we welcome and accept others, we are living into the future of St. George's.



Another "future" topic on the agenda is the Manor Lane property we purchased next door. Come to the meeting for a visual tour and to hear what happens next!

The congregation will elect two Wardens, four Vestry members, and two alternate delegates for Diocesan Convention. Jim Montgomery and Carol Herrick are nominated as Senior and Junior Wardens. Candidates for Vestry are Maureen Adebonojo, Diane Gentner, Steve Hansell, Rob Johnson, Bev Reno, Glenn Rodgers, and Cindy White. Their photos and statements were sent out in a special mailing and are also on view in the narthex. Please give them your prayerful consideration and **VOTE! Ballots will be available at all services February 12 and 13; and absentee ballots are available ahead of time from the church office.**

Finally, the details! Lunch will be served for everyone: adults and teens in the Parish Hall; children in the Undercroft, where they will have special fun activities; and the nursery will be open.

"Love one another as I have loved you," says Jesus, in the best valentine message of all!

Carol+

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Monthly Orbit information
deadline is the 15th of each month
for the upcoming month.

Sunday Orbit information
must be submitted by noon
each Tuesday
for the following Sunday.

**Schedule of Services**

Saturday
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
6:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist



Dear People of St. George's,

Last September our daughter **Katie** moved into a student apartment just off campus at Bowling Green. Everybody in the six unit building got to know each other pretty quickly as the semester progressed. Three guys occupied a top floor flat and Katie quickly became enamored with one of them...the only one who wasn't actually going to school.

It turns out he finished his junior year at the University of Cincinnati but was also part of the Army Reserves. His unit was to be shipped out to Baghdad in early November and there was no time to finish another quarter or semester. So he stayed with a couple of old high school buddies and encountered early twitertation with Katie.

November came and went but **Aaron's** reserve unit didn't. He spent some time with us over Thanksgiving and we got to like him and the relationship that he and Katie shared. The Army promised a shipping date before Christmas but that didn't happen. A few days before Christmas Eve, Aaron called and after a few pleasantries and a long pause (I am not much for phone conversations) I handed the phone over to Mary Ann. Aaron was working up the courage to ask me if I minded if he asked Katie to become engaged, but he asked Mary Ann instead.

Let me just say that **Mary Ann** and I were both shocked by the suddenness of this proposal. Katie and Aaron came to Centerville for Christmas Eve. I took Aaron outside to shovel snow off the patio and to voice my concerns. "You are a fine young man and I would be proud to have you as a son-in-law but I think it is too early. You are going off to war for at least a year. You both have time to grow this relationship," I said and Aaron nodded his head. That evening our son Joe joined us and we all went to St. George's five o'clock service. I thanked God for allowing me to handle such a delicate matter so well.

I think that all Aaron heard was "You are a fine young man and I would be proud to have you as a son-in-law," because he proposed to Katie on Christmas day. Katie was ecstatic and accepted and we parents were dazed for at least two weeks. Now Katie is back at BG for winter semester and Aaron is in Baghdad getting ready for the "Election". We'll see how events play out.

Through Christmas Pageants, Confirmations, Youth Trips and Graduation Sermons we've seen our children grow. I guess they're ready to make "big" decisions. We are fortunate that St. George's has provided a background of caring people and clergy. Folks like you who have shaped a rational and Christian way of thinking and acting for our kids and so many others.

In 2004 we celebrated the 50th birthday of St. George's. But celebration doesn't stop just because one big event has passed. This Church is always abuzz with planning for activities that bring us close together as a community. Just look at how fun the Annual Spaghetti Dinner is and how it helps social causes. Just look at a bulletin for things to do. There is something available to keep anyone engaged.

The Annual Meeting of the Church is coming up soon. I noted in the mail recently that there are a couple of folks running for vestry that have young children. It undoubtedly would be a good idea to vote for these people so that they have a strong voice in shaping the Christian education of our youth. The rest of the field (and it's a big one) have so much talent and expertise that it is hard to make a choice. How can we go wrong with so many people happy to take an active roll in the celebration of Christ at St. George's? Please be there to vote and be generous this year in your giving.

Uh Oh! Wright State is playing UIC. Hopefully the Raiders are on their game tonight. Gotta Go!

Peace be with you!

Patrick MacKenzie

PERSONAL NOTES

Condolences:

...to **Karen Molt** and her family on the death of her mother, St. George's parishioner **Dorothy Ermer**. Dorothy was buried from All Saints' Church in Cleveland.

Thank you

...to **Doug Reno**, completing a term as Senior Warden (and eight years total service on the Vestry!); to outgoing Vestry members **Abe Cherian** and **Elizabeth Gustafson**; to **Patrick McNulty**, who has resigned from the Vestry because he and his family are moving to Oklahoma; to **Diane Gentner**, who served out a previous member's unexpired term in 2004; and to outgoing Diocesan Convention Delegates **Diane Gentner** and **Stephanie Bange**.

... to Spaghetti Supper co-chairs **Bev Montgomery** and **Margaret Feldmeth**, MC **Pat MacKenzie**, **Jane Weltz** and the "Just The Three Of Us" evening entertainers, and committee chairs **Sheri Bennett**, **Doris Boulton**, **Marty DeMarey**, **Becky Grushon**, **Mary Ann MacKenzie**, **M.J. Miller**, **Jean** and **Terry Tarr**, members of the **Youth Group**, and to everyone who made the Supper a great success by their presence and volunteer work!

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...to **Jim Reppert** and members of the Men's Group for "adopting a room" to paint at the new transitional residence sponsored by the YWCA domestic violence shelter.

St. George's is saying goodbye

...to several people who have been long-time members of the congregation. **Joseph and Barbara McConnell** are moving to Fort Collins, CO February 13 to live near their daughter. **Nancy Parker** will be moving to Boise, ID sometime after late February. Daughter Jennifer Antonen is an Episcopal priest in Boise. **Patrick McNulty**, who grew up at St. George's, has already left to take a new position in Cushing, OK. Claire and daughters Teresa and Sylvia are still in the area while their house is on the market. We will miss these folks. We wish them many blessings in their new homes.

**St. George's is supported
by the voluntary giving of its members.
Pledge cards and offering envelopes are available
through the church business office.**

confirmation scheduled for april 3

The Rt. Rev. Kenneth Price, Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese, will visit all four services at St. George's the weekend of April 2 – 3 (the weekend after Easter) and will administer the sacramental rite of Confirmation.

Teens in ninth grade and older who are interested in Confirmation are invited, with their parents, to meet with the Rector on Tuesday evening, February 8, at 7:30 in the Welcome Area. Teen preparation sessions are planned for five Sunday evenings beginning February 20, from 5 – 7 P.M., with supper included.

The sessions will offer teens the opportunity to reflect on where they are in their faith journey. Topics include discussion on how we understand God's presence in our lives, who is Jesus for us, and what it means to be a follower of Jesus in the church and the world.

Adults desiring to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church are asked to contact **Associate Rector Paul St. Germain**.

The Prayer Book describes Confirmation as "a mature public affirmation of faith and commitment to the responsibilities of Baptism," both for those baptized at an early age and for those coming into the Episcopal Church as adults. In making their affirmation, confirmands receive the laying on of hands from the bishop and prayers for the Holy Spirit to empower their ministry as Christians.

lift every voice and sing

Worshippers at St. George's will discover a new addition to the row of books in each pew rack. Congregational copies of *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*, an African-American hymnal, were dedicated at the 10:30 service January 16. Intended as an enrichment for worship and supplement to the 1982 Hymnal, LEVAS II was published in 1993 as a collaboration between the Church Hymnal Corporation and the Episcopal Commission for Black Ministries. Our hymnals are the generous gift of our deacon, **the Rev. Connie McCarroll**, in memory of Kim Shephard.

LEVAS contains music drawn from several genres -- Negro spirituals, gospel songs, Protestant hymns, missionary hymns, and service music -- and many selections are probably familiar from other contexts. We will gradually explore the contents in the months to come. Take time to read the introduction and to page through the book. Let me know if you find a favorite hymn. Like the 1982 Hymnal, LEVAS is arranged according to liturgical seasons and then by topics, like "Praise to God," "The Holy Spirit," and "Communion."

The title hymn, "Lift Every Voice and Sing," is a famous song written by James Weldon Johnson in 1900 to express the faith and hope of Black Americans. As the title of a congregational hymnal, the phrase invites all Christians to join together praising God. In the words of Psalm 40, which we read on the second Sunday of Epiphany, "He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God."

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 9

Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

7:00 a.m.

12:00 Noon

7:30 p.m.



Participants in the Wonderful Wednesdays program are invited to attend the evening service

The Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio Chapter Union of
Black Episcopalians

holy festive eucharist

To Celebrate the Life and Ministry of the

Reverend Absalom Jones

Sunday, February 13, 2005

5:00 p.m.

Christ Church Cathedral

318 E. Fourth Street

Cincinnati, Oh 45202

513-621-1817

Celebrant: The Rt. Rev. Herbert Thompson, Jr.

Preacher: Earl G. Harris, Greater Allen
AME Church, Dayton, OH

Mass Choir representing
Churches within the Diocese of Southern Ohio

opportunities for a prayerful lent

“For you are my hope, my Lord God.” Psalm 71

This year St. George’s is offering everyone the chance to open “the windows of the soul” - and go on a personal journey of the spirit. Three different brochures have been placed in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit, each designed for a different contemplative experience. They embark the participant on a physical and spiritual “journey” within the church building.

Please plan about twenty minutes sometime this Lent to experience one or more of these meditations. Come to the chapel. Light a candle and carry it with you on your journey. At the end you may find yourself closer to God than when you began. To learn more about the “windows of the soul” we recommend Anglican mystic Evelyn Underhill’s “**The House of the Soul**”, published in 1930.

an icon walk

A new meditation that travels about the church introducing and praying with seven icons—sacred paintings from Christianity’s Eastern tradition (and often referred to as “windows to heaven.”)

stations of the cross

Walk the traditional stations of the cross in the church sanctuary. Suggestion: Observe this tradition every Friday in Lent to prepare for the Liturgy of the Stations on Good Friday. Be watching also for a “A Virtual Meditation: The Stations of the Cross” that will take place in the Parish Hall during Holy Week using over 1000 projected images—many from the *Via Dela Rosa* (Way of the Cross) in Jerusalem.

the story of st. george’s windows

This series takes you through the story of creation, the Bible, and the history of the church from the Anglican and Episcopal traditions. (A highly condensed version of “**Like Stars Appearing**” available through the “Buy George” Bookstore.)

*All three meditations may be done silently
or as a small group.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

vestry digest

At their January 17 meeting, the Vestry considered these matters on the agenda:

- ⇒ Received Finance Committee year-end report on the 2004 budget and discussed various aspects of the 2005 budget currently under preparation.
- ⇒ Authorized the Clergy Housing Resolution for 2005.
- ⇒ Accepted with regret the resignation of Patrick McNulty, who is moving to Oklahoma.
- ⇒ Received the report of the Nominating Committee and discussed plans for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation February 13.
- ⇒ Heard and discussed the Rector's report of new staff members: Business Manager Mitzi Stoner, who succeeds Jean Hanning in a 24-hour-per-week position; and Jonathan and Amy Leitch, who, thanks to a special memorial gift, will receive a weekly stipend as Youth Ministers in 2005.
- ⇒ Made plans for the Vestry Retreat with the Rev. Jim Hanisian February 18 and 19.

financial update The year-end report for December 2004 showed a budget surplus of \$4,983 but without payment of the December Mission Share to the Diocese. The Vestry voted to bring \$4900 into the 2005 budget for that purpose and to add the balance of the outstanding payment to our 2005 obligation. The Vestry will have a special meeting February 7 to approve a budget for 2005. Pledges and contributions for 2005 presently total about \$487,000.

altar flowers: DONORS ARE NEEDED AND 2005 DATES ARE AVAILABLE!...still with the option of one or two altar bouquets in the sanctuary. If you would like to give altar flowers (\$50 each bouquet) as a memorial or thanksgiving gift, **please sign one of the two charts on the bulletin board opposite the office, giving full information for that service bulletin no later than the Sunday preceding your desired date.** Thank you.

After the 10:30 service, altar flowers are sent to parishioners and friends who are experiencing illness, bereavement, or other pastoral situations

ANGLICAN LINKS AND CELTIC HERITAGE

A fellowship visit to a Sister Church and a Celtic Pilgrimage

June 28 – July 9, 2005

Led by the **Rev. Dominic Barrington** of St. Peter and Paul Church, Kettering, England
and **Carol Hull, Rector of St. George's**

Members and friends of St. George's are invited to participate in a two-week trip to England next summer to visit with parishioners in our twin-city parish and enjoy a unique opportunity to explore the Celtic stream of our Anglican tradition.

For the first few days, travelers will stay in parishioners' homes in Kettering, celebrate their patronal feast day in their beautiful 15th century church on the market square, and make excursions to Cambridge, Bury St. Edmunds, Blenheim Palace, and the Royal Shakespeare Festival. Then the group will travel by bus through Yorkshire to the holy island of Lindisfarne and the magnificent Durham Cathedral, widely regarded as the most beautiful in England. Stops along the way include Whitby, Ripon, and Fountains Abbey. Travel is Dominick's passion, and he has extensive experience in arranging pilgrimages for church groups. The trip promises to be a wonderful opportunity to travel together in community and to experience our connection with the Anglican Communion.

Descriptive brochures are available on the Welcome Table and through Carol Hull. Talk to Carol soon if you might be interested in going.



ANNOUNCEMENTS continued from page 5

welcome to new business manager

Mitzi Stoner joined St. George's staff as Business Manager at the beginning of January. Her hours are usually 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Mitzi is a member of Aley United Methodist Church in Beavercreek where she also works as their part-time bookkeeper. Married to Kyle Stoner, she has three children, Sara, Kyle and Samantha.

Do your New Year's resolutions for 2005 include deepening your spiritual life? **the daughters of the king**, a group of women at St. George's, meets regularly to encourage each other in spiritual growth and also to serve the parish. Please join us at our next meeting on **Saturday, February 26**, from 10:00 a.m. until noon in the chapel. For additional information, call **Doris Boulton at 885-9640**

personal prayers for healing and intercession.

Healing prayer will be offered on the second Sunday of each month during the 10:30 Sunday service. Parishioners trained in healing prayer will be available in the Chapel during the Eucharist to pray privately with those who desire prayer for themselves or for others. All prayer requests will be kept confidential.

mothers & others.... Need a night away from macaroni and cheese and flying sippy cups? Mark your calendar for the second Monday of each month when we meet for a night of good food, adult conversation, and unlicensed group therapy. Check the weekly Orbit for the month's location. For more information and/or to RSVP, please contact **Margaret Feldmeth at mfeldmeth@woh.rr.com or at (937) 395-0212.**


men's breakfast & fellowship meet on the second Saturday of the month at **8:00 a.m.** in the Parish Hall. Interested men of St. George's are welcome to attend. **jim-reppert@sbcglobal.net or tel: 433-5339.**

bridge enthusiasts: Are you aware that St. George's has a "party bridge" group, meeting monthly on Saturday nights, which has been in existence 20+ years? New members (couples and singles) are welcomed and encouraged to join! Please call **Dorothy Smith (885-1932), Melanie Hitch (299-1721), or Virginia Holton-Stahl (433-8722).**

"HOW TOS" of St. George's

A new column regarding *This, That and The Others...*

The Contributions Envelope

JUN 12 2005	225	
		
ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 5520 Far Hills Avenue Dayton, Ohio 45429		
PLEDGE \$ _____	VISIONS 2000 \$ _____	OTHER (Specify) \$ _____
"Growing in Christ's love and service" Name _____		

In the world of computers, financial records are tracked by number. People who pledge or make regular contributions to St. George's are given a number and offering envelopes. The assigned number is located in the upper right corner of the envelope. Regardless of whether you actually use the envelopes or just write checks, the number is used to keep track of your records; and it allows you to be relatively anonymous if you choose to be. By having an envelope number, you receive year-end statements of contributions to use for your tax purposes.

Using envelopes helps the Business Manager to work more efficiently. Please indicate on the envelope if the enclosed payment is for your 2005 pledge or contribution to the operating budget, a pledge or gift to Visions 2000 or 2000 - II building campaigns, or for something else, for example, a contribution to Episcopal Relief and Development or for memorial flowers. Please also indicate the purpose of the check on the memo line.

Making a pledge to the church and keeping it current helps the parish to plan and grow Christ's ministry. We rely on the support of all our members, and we thank you for your generosity.

buy george

... A collection of items celebrating St. George's - good for year-long gift-giving

St. George's Cookbook

Like Stars Appearing—Ann Rowland's wonderful book about our stained glass windows

50th Anniversary bookmarks—for that book you're reading right now

St. George window note cards—for any occasion

St. George T-shirts, sweatshirts, golf shirts—for children and adults

St. George flags—for waving!

Come by our table in the Welcome Area following the 5:00 p.m. and 10:30 a.m. services

P.S. BUY GEORGE needs additional helpers to staff the sales table. If you can help, please call Doris Boulton (885-9640), Patricia Zeller (885-4146) or the Rector (434-1781)

ADULT EDUCATION



wednesday morning bible
studied by the Rector, meets 9:30 – 11:00 a.m., in the Parish Hall. The group is reading “Second Isaiah” (Isaiah 40 – 55), with its texts familiar from Handel’s *Messiah* and the Christian lectionary.

sunday morning bible study: Sunday mornings, 9:15 – 10:15 in the Parish Hall. **Bill Lamb and Rector Carol Hull** jointly lead a study and discussion group focusing on the gospel selection to be read aloud in worship that Sunday. New participants are always welcome. Bill begins at 9:15 with translation of the Greek text. General discussion begins at 9:30. *Bring a bible.*

c.s. lewis reading group meets *Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.* Led by the *Associate Rector*, the group is currently reading *Letters to Malcolm, Chiefly on Prayer*, on January 18. Newcomers welcome.

laurie benner’s reading group will next meet on **February 28** at 7:00 p.m. to discuss *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich. Millions of Americans work for poverty-level wages, and one day Barbara Ehrenreich decided to join them. She was inspired in part by the rhetoric surrounding welfare reform, which promised that any job equals a better life. But how can anyone survive, let alone prosper, on \$6 to \$7 an hour? To find out, Ehrenreich moved from Florida to Maine to Minnesota, taking the cheapest lodgings available and accepting work as a waitress, hotel maid, house cleaner, nursing-home aide, and Wal-Mart salesperson. She soon discovered that even the “lowliest” occupations require exhausting mental and physical efforts. And one job is not enough; you need at least two if you intend to live indoors.

Nickel and Dimed reveals low-wage America in all its tenacity, anxiety, and surprising generosity -- a land of Big Boxes, fast food, and a thousand desperate strategies for survival. Instantly acclaimed for its insight, humor, and passion, this book is changing the way America perceives its working poor.

Nickel and Dimed is the Big Read book chosen to be discussed throughout the Dayton area in the six weeks from February 27th through April 15th. Contact **Laurie at 886-9472 or lbenner@who.rr.com**

CHRISTIAN FORMATION News

We all know that February has Valentine’s Day and President’s Day. Some even celebrate Chinese New Year and Groundhog’s Day. But did you know that February 14-20 is *Random Acts of Kindness Week*? I was a willing victim of this celebration a couple of years ago. Students at UD were giving out helium balloons with a note saying that I “had just been hit by a Random Act of Kindness.” I think I had a smile on my face for the rest of the day. Who needs an act of Kindness in your life? Why not start a tradition with your children or grandchildren and teach them the joy of giving to others?



sunday school

In January we finished the story of Abraham and Sarah. This month we will be learning how God came to us through the prophet Micah.

A reminder that **communion classes** are on **Wednesdays in February, from 4:30 to 5:20.** All participants are welcome to join us for our **Wonder-Full Wednesday dinner and program following.**

Have a blessing-full month!
In Christ’s Love, Patti King

wonder-full wednesdays

resumed in January with supper and programs for people of all ages, children through adults, 5:30 – 7:30, with supper at 5:30, followed by classes. Alpha runs until 8:30; other programs end at 7:45. *Questions about the children’s program? Call Patti King at 434-1781.*

Adult offerings include:

alpha: Questions of Faith, a practical introduction to the Christian Faith. Whether a person is relatively new to Christian faith or wants to learn more about basic Christian belief and practice, the objective of Alpha is to help people discover how Jesus Christ has relevance for their lives. Each session features a video presentation and discussion.

Questions? **Brad Miter at 374-0218.**

via media is a brand new video course developed to proclaim God in Jesus Christ and to present the Episcopal Church in a 21st century American context. The phrase *via media* means “middle way,” and the course celebrates the Anglican tradition of “both/and” which frames the context of how we think theologically and wrestle with tough questions. Offering a diverse witness to the uniquely Anglican way of being Christian, **via media** invites people to find community in conversation about the journey of faith. Questions? **Paul St. Germain at 434-1781.**

SOCIAL OUTREACH:

salvation army (booth house) S.O.S.! Save our Salvation Army's 28 year old feeding ministry. WHO? Maybe you. We need a few volunteers to transport and serve the monthly hot, nutritious meal to the men at the Booth House Rehab Center, 624 South Main St, Dayton. You pick the food up at St. George's at 4:30 p.m. and return the pans, etc. to the church by 6:30 p.m. Our day is the 2nd Wednesday of each month. The rehab residents are very polite and so grateful and you will feel blessed each time you serve them in Christ's name. **Please call Mary McLean, 427-2315**, to join our team. Thank you. **Roger Rollins for the Social Outreach Committee.**

...Next opportunity to assist will be **Wednesday, February 9**. Dinner will be prepared in the undercroft kitchen 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. Servers carpool to the shelter at 4:30 p.m. Cookies and 9X13 cakes are greatly needed for dessert. Please bring your donation to the undercroft by 3:30 p.m.

the other place Volunteers from St. George's prepare and serve breakfast on the 4th Saturday of each month at The Other Place, a daytime homeless shelter in Dayton. If you would like to help serve or donate breakfast items, please contact **Marty De-Marey 299-5895, Mary Rollins 293-7940, Sheila Browning -436-3287, Carol & Tim Davis 299-8870.**

the basics of teaching English as a second language will be presented by Karen Johnson, Saturday, **February 12**, here at St. George's from 7:30 a.m. (registration) to 4:00 p.m.. Class size is limited. *You must register.* Applications are available... please contact **Robert van Patten, 848-4069** for more information.

tsunami relief: Episcopal Relief and Development is part of the global response to those affected by the massive natural disaster. You can donate by writing a check to St. George's with "ERD" on the memo line, or by sending contributions directly to Episcopal Relief and Development, c/o Emergency Relief Fund, P.O. Box 12043, Newark NJ 07101.

SPECIAL MINISTRIES

homebound? You can listen to the 10:30 Worship Service: Call the church office to be put on the list to receive audio CD's for the homebound.

hospitality: Volunteers are needed to sign up to host the fall hospitality time following the 10:30 service. The church provides the fixings for coffee and tea. Volunteers are asked to make the coffee (instructions are on the machine) and provide refreshment snacks and a beverage for children. Please help with this important ministry of hospitality. The Sign-up Sheet is in the Parish Hall. Questions? Contact **Carol Herrick 433-0143.**

stephen ministry: Stephen Ministers are trained to serve as caring lay persons to extend the pastoral care efforts of the clergy. A Stephen Minister visits regularly with a person who might be experiencing a difficult period or transition in their life, and who would like to have someone listen objectively, empathetically and confidentially. To request a Stephen Minister, speak with either of the clergy. For more information about the program, contact either of the Stephen Leaders: **Jean Case (434-4260) or Fay Layden (433-3867).**

st. george's stephen ministry: Supervision Meetings – Parish Hall

Third Saturday of each month (10:30 a.m. – noon)

Feb. 19, Mar. 19 at St. George's, regular time

Sunday **April 10** (5 p.m. after continuing ed at Zion Church)

May 21, June 18, July 16, Aug. 20 at St. George's, regular time

Sunday, **Sept 18** (5 p.m. after continuing ed, church TBA)

Oct. 15 at St. George's, regular time

Sunday, **Nov. 13** (5 p.m. after continuing ed, church TBA)

Dec. 17 at St. George's, regular time

lay eucharistic ministers: We have several lay people who are trained and licensed by the diocese to take communion to the homebound, those in hospitals, or residents of nursing homes who cannot get to the services. If you would like to have communion brought to you, please call the church office. This can be done on a temporary or long-term basis.

prayer chain requests call **Yvonne Jennings, 435-0055 / kjennings1@woh.rr.com** or **Carolyn Thomas, 298-0064 / cktenn@aol.co**

MVERN youth ministry trip to russia Want to learn more about "To Russia with Love," MVERN's fourth youth ministry trip to Russia in June? Episcopal youth, ages 14 and older, from throughout the Miami Valley are invited to attend a "Russian Quest Fest" informational meeting on Sunday, February 6, at St. George's Episcopal Church, 5520 Far Hills Avenue, Kettering. In order not to conflict with the Super Bowl, the time has been changed to 3:00 p.m. Hear awesome stories from youth who have experienced this moving and inspirational faith journey in the past. Watch a multi-media presentation of past trips while enjoying popcorn and hot chocolate. Brochures with complete information will be available, and former travelers and chaperones will be available to answer questions. For additional information, contact **Teresa Lynne** (937/271-3917, lynnetterri@aol.com).

Chris Saunders

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Dayton, OH 45459-2964
(H) 937/435-3550
Fax: 937/435-4036
csaunders856@aol.com

dohn family newsletter

The view from *This Little Row*

in the Lord's Vineyard

Dohn Family Prayer Letter – December, 2004

Anita and Michael Dohn are physicians serving as missionaries with La Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana through the South American Missionary Society. They live with their four daughters in San Pedro de Macoris in the Dominican Republic

Over a year ago we were surprised to find that Bishop Holguín, our diocesan bishop here in the Dominican Republic, was appointed the interim Bishop of the Diocese of Cuba. It seems that the Bishop of Cuba at that time had resigned. There was not much said about the circumstances of the resignation, except that it had come about fairly quickly and it had been the Cuban Bishop's decision that now was the time to retire. Those of us sitting around that evening could only speculate about the pressures under which an Episcopal Bishop in Cuba might be working and living. It was mentioned, rather ominously, that none of the priests in Cuba were enthusiastic about taking his place.

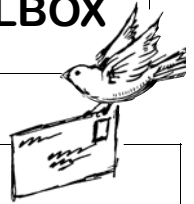
We thought of this episode again because the (now previous) Bishop of Cuba came to the Diocesan clinic last week. The clinic often has visiting Bishop's and dignitaries coming to visit, but this time the Bishop was not just visiting. He had come as a patient. He patiently awaited his turn until Anita saw him.

He is a native Cuban. However, he and his family are living here in San Pedro de Macoris now. Not only did he resign, but he had to leave his country. We still do not have many details ...

Sometimes during the Prayers of the People in the Eucharist, we find ourselves just glossing-over some of the implications contained within those succinct prayers. The Bishop last week was a good reminder to us that, as we pray for all Bishops and Ministers, some of them are laboring with difficult social conditions including poverty, illiteracy, and epidemic diseases as well as political challenges such as war, persecution, and threats.

Christianity is by far the major religion in the world; however in many places in our world today, it is not easy, comfortable, or sometimes even safe to live as a Christian. There is now a new Bishop in Cuba, and the work continues. *Keep praying. In Christ, Anita and Michael*

FROM THE MAILBOX



*I wish to express my wholehearted and sincere appreciation to the members and clergy of Saint Georges for their prayers and support during my recent illness. The cards, flowers and visits helped me realize that I wasn't fighting this battle alone. I'm happy to report that my oncologist says that I am now in remission and that no more treatment is necessary. I am well along in the rehabilitation process now, and expect to be back to normal in a matter of weeks. Again, thanks to all of you, **Jerry Boulton***

*Thank you...to Carol and all the clergy, choir, and parish family for their support, and also for the prayer shawl, bread loaf and flowers during my hip surgery and recovery. Sincerely, **James Hoffman.***

*Thank you so much for all the flowers and prayers that were sent up by so many of you in support of our son, Paul. He is doing well and will hopefully be allowed to return to work by the end of the month. Thank you again. **Jane & Bill Gallienne***

*To all the youth and parish members of St. George's, a HUGE THANK YOU for the care and love you showered on Vidalia, Cesar and Zulman when they visited Dayton. It was a once in a lifetime experience for them and will forever be a precious memory. They left Guatemala with some anxiety and returned with an awe-filled appreciation and gratitude for the families who hosted them, the youth connection and the many others who gave of their time and attention. They continue to marvel that you would sacrifice to bring them to know your reality and continue to forge a connection with Guatemala. At this marvelous season of Advent-Christmas, may each of you know that you did indeed help birth the Christ ever more in the lives of these people. Thank you again. **Sister Kris Schrader, Director St. Maria De Mattias Basic Institute, La Labor, Guatemala.***

St. George's Episcopal Church

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Dayton, Ohio 45429

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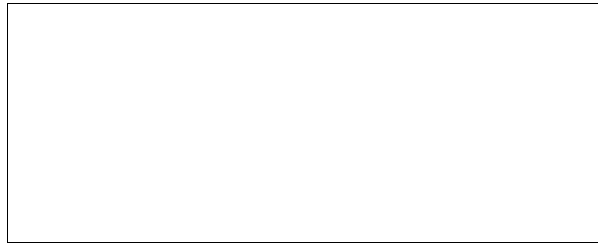
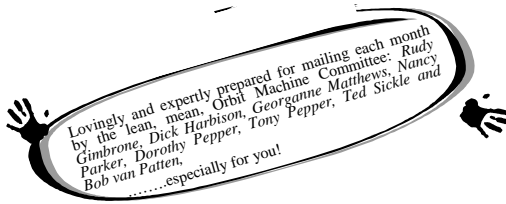
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Return Service Requested





st. george's annual meeting:

february 13

(following 10:30 service)

in the Parish Hall

Lunch , children's activity and nursery care are provided.

**Absentee ballots for the Vestry election are available from the Church office
or at all services February 12 and 13.**

