

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Without A Doubt

JUNE 2009

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

I heard the following poem last summer and was drawn to its simply stated inspiration:

I am tired of sailing my boat far inside the harbor bar;
I want to go out where the big ships float;
Out on the deep where the great ones are;
Should my frail craft prove too slight,
For those waves that sweep the billows
Oh I would rather go down in the stirring fight
Than drowse to death by the sheltered shore.

Anonymous – Quoted in Howard Thurman's autobiography, *With Head and Heart*

The Vestry seeks to help create the balance we need of St Thomas being a foundation for our journey, a gentle (mostly) nudge in our journey, a place for guidance in our journey, and finally a place where together, often simply by holding hands and sharing inspiration, we are much stronger in our journey than we are apart. The Vestry always needs feedback, please let us know your thoughts.

Kate and I sent a letter out last week to everyone who has pledged or given in the last few years. In it we noted that as we approach the mid year point, our different ministries in the church are well on the path to their 2009 goals and the many parts of St Thomas are vibrant. We also reported that the pace of pledge payments is down while the steady pace of our expenses marches on. So our cash reserves are very low. We asked in the letter and we ask again here that everyone, those who have pledged and everyone else, give prayerful thought to their financial commitment to St Thomas. If you can speed up your pledge payments, please do, others may need to pause; if you can increase your pledge, please do, others may need to lower theirs; and if it is clear your circumstances have changed and you need to lower your pledge or delay payment, please let Bob Ulrich know as Treasurer so we can plan accordingly.

We will report more on our progress next month.

Philip Goodpasture

The Most Rev. Katherine Jefferts Schori
Presiding Bishop

The Right Reverend Peter James Lee
Diocesan Bishop

The Right Reverend Shannon Sherwood Johnston
Bishop Coadjutor

The Right Reverend David Colin Jones
Suffragan Bishop

The Reverend Susan N. Eaves
Rector

The Reverend Susan Daughtry
The W. Smith Assistant Rector

June Hardy Dorsey
Lay Associate for Ministry

Dr. David McCormick
Organist/Choirmaster

The Reverend Doctor Lindon J. Eaves
Priest-in-Residence

Amy Harr
Youth Minister

Amelie Allen
Seminarist

Mistique Primar
Parish Secretary

Kelly Kane
Day School Director

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

MUSIC	2
LETTERS OF THANKS	2
DAY SCHOOL	3
OUTDOOR WORSHIP	3
PRAYER LIST	4

FROM THE ORGANIST'S BENCH



Last month we talked about **Summer Choir**. Now it's time to sign up! No week night rehearsals; just show up at 9 o'clock before service at 10, **starting June 14** and running through July. Please do let me know, however, which Sundays you think you will be able to join us. You can always change your mind, but I need to have some idea of how many sopranos, altos, tenors and basses we are

likely to have as I try to choose suitable music. So be sure to let me know what part you sing

Voice Class. Last summer we instituted one-hour vocal exploration classes on Wednesday evenings, open to anyone high school age or older, whether or not they have done group singing or not. Those attending came away with a better understanding of healthy vocal pro-

duction, sometimes being surprised at how good they could actually sound! **First class will be June 3** at 7:15, and most Wednesdays through the summer. Relatively consistent attendance is expected.

Please contact me about either of these opportunities at DMcCormick@stthomasrichmond.org

THANK YOU, ST. THOMAS' FOR ALL THAT YOU DO!

In the last few months, St. Thomas' has received thank you notes from people who benefit from the many outreach collections and outreach ministries that we serve. Here are a few of their kind words.

Elizabeth Moore: I want to thank all of the volunteers who gave their time on New Year's Day to help me and others to get some food items to start off the year off. In tough times like this, one really finds out who their true brothers and sisters in Christ are. Thank you again.

Ilse Fuller: Thank you so much for yet another batch of beautiful spectacles, delivered to me yesterday. They will be mailed within two days! I have several other items to pack with the glasses to protect them—nearly ready to go! It is always with great joy that I send gifts from all my friends to those in Uganda who have nothing. Their circumstances do not seem to have improved as there are always new arrivals with no possessions. The person who distributes the items is their parish priest, a man who was a student here at Virginia Theological Seminary when my husband taught there, we know him and are assured that he uses the gifts well. It is still a very sad situation... it is sometimes hard for us to even imagine what it must be like not to be able to purchase anything—so I am very grateful to be given the items to mail them. Best wishes and grateful thanks.

Bishop Jones: Thank you for your generous contribution to my discretionary fund made on the occasion of my visit to St. Thomas' Church. This fund enables me to extend my ministry to meet new mission opportunities and unexpected needs of congregations, clergy, seminarians, and other individuals. Please know of my prayers for you and my gratitude for your support.

THANKS FROM THE DAY SCHOOL

The last day for the Day School is May 20, 2009. Thank you to all who helped make this a wonderful school year and supported our annual Casino Night Fundraiser. These funds will be used for our scholarship fund and for program enhancements. We are currently collecting **Labels for Education** and **Ukrops Golden Gift Certificates**, which can be dropped off in the **Day School mailbox**, by the church office. We still have **openings for next year** and are offering **Summer Camps** for 8 weeks over the summer. For more information, please call Kelly Kane at 329-1117. Have a great summer!



ELBOW GREASE HELPS THE CHURCH SHINE!

A big "Thank you" goes to those who rolled up their sleeves and volunteered for two church cleaning projects this spring. In preparation for Easter, Nathan Beck, Emma Beck, Eva Beck, Jenny Eckert, Grace Sparks,

Daniel Meier, Vera Meier and Beverly Fiaella worked one Saturday to clean the church. Their work was followed in the next few weeks by Jenny Eckert, Phil Eckert, Judy Erdman, Hedley Gunther, and Margaret Woody who

worked to clean the second floor of the Parish Hall. The appearance of both areas are now greatly improved thanks so the "elbow grease" of these willing workers.



Be sure to join us here at St. Thomas' on June 7 for the Holy Eucharist and Baptisms at 10am, followed by the Church Picnic at 11am!





ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3602 Hawthorne Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Phone: 804.321.9548
Fax: 804.321.4481

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

[HTTP://WWW.STTHOMASRICHMOND.ORG](http://www.stthomasrichmond.org)

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Those dioceses, churches and clergy remembered this month in the Anglican and diocesan cycles of prayer, and:

- The Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Ogoni - (Province of Niger Delta, Nigeria) The Rt Revd Solomon Gberegbara
- Those in the congregation: Bailey Jane Lyon, Elizabeth Barmer
- And others we love: LaRhonda and Amuris Hardy, Pam Poole (friend of Sharon Peck), Claire Austin Hart (granddaughter of Jack and Suzanne Austin), Joy Hardy (mother of Phil Hunnicutt), Katherine Timberlake (cousin of Margaret Woody)
- For those who have died: Marion Sincavage (grandmother of Mitra Bryant), Rosemary Kelso (friend of Linc Sparks), Michael Jordan (friend of Ann Dickson), Bill Wade (father of Nikki Sabiston), Charlie Killebrew (uncle of Fran Henderson)
- In thanksgiving for the birth of Finley Allen to Chris and Stacy Hull;
- In thanksgiving of the birth of Bailey Jane Lyon, granddaughter of Betsy Lyon;
- For the ministry of the Nurturing Parent Group, meeting at St. Thomas' until August;
- For the safety and guidance of John Tierney (son of Deborah Denney) who is currently hiking the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine;
- For the safety and guidance of Jennifer Loving who is in India to participate in the Gandhi Peace Project and will stay there after the project for an internship working with street children;
- For the guidance and prayers of St. Thomas';
- For our enemies;
- For all women and men serving in our armed forces: Sergeant Joshua Craig, CW2 Erik Sabiston
- Thanksgiving for the lives and ministries of those who celebrate their birthday this month, including: Jonathan Austin, Marcia Bracy, Mimi Gill, Matt Cook, Roger Bowers, Kirsten Meier, Amanda Riley, Jake Dorsey, Katherine Gallagher, Andrew Tait, Jennifer Amos, Sean Baskerville, Fran Henderson, Ann Dickson, Lucie Hanes, Phil Eckert, Zoe Commings, Vivi Peasley, Quin Smith, Mike Royster, Ada Rigsby, Eric Boyer, Anna Brock, Elijah Petty, Tom Bowles, Jeanne Loving, Caroline Hanes, Olivia Royster, Jessie Turner, Luke Royster, Jacob Lovins and John Board

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
3602 HAWTHORNE AVENUE
RICHMOND, VA 23222