Build New Churches EPISC PAL 212th Annual Council ONE Mission, ONE Church, ONE New Bishop Coadjutor by Emily Cherry The main order of business at The Diocese of Virginia's 212th

Annual Council was the election of a bishop coadjutor to succeed Bishop Lee upon his retirement. The Very Rev. Shannon Johnston was elected bishop coadjutor on the third ballot on Friday, Jan. 26 at the Richmond Marriott. Elected from a pool of five candidates, Mr. Johnston received 159 clergy votes and 210 lay votes on the winning ballot. A majority of at least 128 clergy votes and 135 lay votes was required for election.

A courtesy resolution was proposed and adopted from Council floor honoring and thanking the four other nominees: the Rev. Robert S. Dannals, the Rev. Gay C. Jennings, the Rev. Canon Irwin M. "Win" Lewis and the Rev. Caroline Smith Parkinson.

MARCH 2007 +

Mr. Johnston, 48, has served as rector of All Saints', Tupelo, Miss., since 1994. He received his bachelor of arts degree from the University of the South, Sewanee, and earned his master of divinity degree from Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, where he graduated first in his class.

Mr. Johnston / continued on page 4

Bishop Coadjutor-elect Johnston

VOLUME 116 +

Primates engage in 'intense listening' at Annual Meeting

By Matthew Davies, Episcopal News Service

The Primates' Meeting of the worldwide Anglican Communion convened Feb. 15 for its fiveday agenda near Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Intense listening, characterized by an expression of "patience, graciousness, care and respect" was the atmosphere in which the primates gathered, said Australia's Archbishop Phillip Aspinall during a media briefing following the conclusion of their first day of sessions.

"There has been no talk of schism in the meeting at all," he said.

In a report issued by a subgroup of the Communion, a consensus was reached that although The Episcopal Church did not

use the precise language of the Windsor Report, which called for a "moratorium" on the election of gay bishops and consent to those votes, "it probably did the most that could have been done, and the response to that request is adequate," said Archbishop Aspinall, who was joined at the briefing by Archbishop John Chew of Southeast Asia.

The General Convention resolution, adopted in 2006, calls the Church to "exercise restraint by not consenting to the consecration of any candidate to the episcopate whose manner of life presents a challenge to the wider church and will lead to further strains on communion."

Regarding public rites for the blessing of same-gender unions, the

What is a Primate?

According to Church Publishing Incorporated's Episcopal Dictionary of the Church, a primate is "The chief bishop in an Anglican Province. ... The 1978 Lambeth Conference requested that primates' meetings should be established to enable regular consultation among the primates of the Anglican Communion."

sub-group said it was not satisfied by General Convention's response. "It is not convinced about the rationale of why General Convention did not act explicitly," Aspinall said.

A Publication of the

Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Virginia

NUMBER 2

The Windsor Report also called on The Episcopal Church to express regret for the pain it had caused by its recent actions. "Again the General Convention didn't use the precise language of the Windsor Report," Archbishop Aspinall said, but noted that the sub-group felt the response of The Episcopal Church had been sufficient.

It was recognized that "unwanted and uninvited intervention" from other parts of the Anglican Communion—such as the crossing of Provincial or diocesan boundaries, as criticized by the Windsor Report-has caused difficulties in The Episcopal Church.

In this regard, the sub-group expressed concern that "the other / continued on page 15

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March 2007 + VOLUME 116 + NUMBER 2 Circulation 26,500 Published by The Diocese of Virginia

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The Virginia Episcopalian (ISSN 15353621, USPS 019711) is published by the Diocese of Virginia, located at 110 W. Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23220. It is published bimonthly six times per year. Periodicals postage paid in Richmond, VA 23232-9998.

Subscriptions:

- + \$4.25/ year for communicants of the Diocese
- + \$5.50 / year for non-communicants
- + \$1.50 for individual copies

Views expressed in this newspaper are not official statements of policy by the Diocese of Virginia.

Editorial and advertising policy is set by the editor and Executive Board with the advice of the editorial advisory board.

NEWS OF THE DIOCESE

Letters to the Editor

We Want to Hear from You Please send your comments (around 80 words or less) to *The Virginia Episcopalian*, 110 West Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23220, or echerry@thediocese.net.

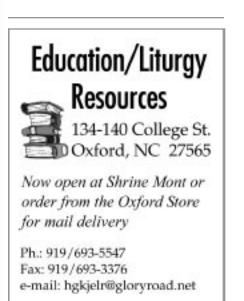
Excitement about the Future of TEC

In their Jan. 8 op-ed in *The Washington Post*, the rector and a parishioner of The Falls Church put forth their reasons for leaving The Episcopal Church. Among other things, they said we are arrogant, greedy, racist, unfaithful underminers of Christianity. They seem to believe theirs is the unique, exclusive path to salvation and that we are apostates. And so they are leaving The Episcopal Church and affiliating with the Church of Nigeria.

My response as a rank-and-file Episcopalian is that I am not only pleased with the direction our Church is taking, but energized by it.

I like being a member of an authentic Christian community that recognizes our common humanity. Where others, including the Church of Nigeria, have constructed narrow scriptural arguments against the ordination of women, our church has embraced a larger vision of ministry. When I consider the impact of the female priests who have enlightened and instructed my parish, I see no arguments against their ordination that possess any spiritual, moral or intellectual integrity. Are we less or more Christian for having taken this road? Will we be less or more Christian if, as in the case of Bishop Robinson, we further expand our inclusiveness?

I like being a member of an authentic Christian community that prefers wrestling with tough questions to reducing them with pat answers. Contrary to what the *Post* op-ed writers implied, encountering the theologies of "the former Bishop of Newark" and others won't make one less of a Christian; it's more likely one's faith will deepen. My



experience with the thoughtprovoking program, "Living the Questions," left me grateful toward those willing to go beyond artificial boundaries to seek a more profound spirituality.

I like being a member of an authentic Christian community that builds bridges not walls. Recently I had a conversation with a Jewish friend who expressed great admiration for "the exciting developments" in The Episcopal Church, saying we were on "the cutting edge." All of a sudden, we found ourselves discussing the things we have in common, not what divides us. No "exclusive paths" to bicker over, instead we occupied a great place of mutual respect and common purpose.

I am happy to see Episcopalians taking this road and excited about where it may lead us.

Walter Pearce St. Aidan's, Alexandria

Administrative Professional's Retreat

March 19-21 Roslyn Retreat Center in Richmond

Leader: Margery Zoet Bankson, author and potter

Contact: Paris Ball at pball@thediocese.net

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Letters to the Editor

Affirming our Unity

Now is an important time to affirm the deepest personal level of our unity as Christians.

Our unity ultimately rests neither on liturgical baptism nor Holy Scripture. Christ, "dwelling in our hearts by faith" (Eph.3:17) is the foundation of the Holy Temple filled with the Holy Spirit. Scripture testifies to the Christ who has come to live in us as we are born again, receiving Him by faith as Lord and Saviour. (John 5:39,1:12) The oneness of our fellowship in Him is not because of our agreement in moral theology or scriptural interpretation or because of a shared tradition of liturgical worship. The worship we share with all believers in Jesus must be "in Spirit and in Truth" (John 4:23-24). This worship makes us one in Him.

Least of all is our unity defined by denominational labels such as "Episcopal" or "Anglican." Our unity in the love of God comprises all our sisters and brothers of whatever stripe or label and this Love of God also inspires us to join Jesus in reaching out to embrace all who come our way seeking Him.

The Rev. Frederic DuBois Huntington Grace Church, Alexandria and San Marcos Congregation, St. Mark's Alexandria

A "Cognitive Dissonance"

My wife and I were very upset to read the Bishop's monthly letter on page 11 and News of the Diocese on pages 15 and 22 [of the January issue of *The Virginia Episcopalian*].. On page 11, Bishop Lee says, ".... the differences among us are a challange to us to reaffirm our mission and our unity as we listen with compassion to those who are leaving and to those who remain with us." On page 22, Bishop Lee threatens that any attempt to place real or personal property under the authority of any ecclesial body other than The Diocese of Virginia will have, "repercussions and possible civil liability for individual vestry members." The cognitive dissonance between these two statements cries out for recognition by all Episcopalians.

Would the Bishop actually sue individual vestry members for exercising their Christian consciences? Apparently so. What next, an Inquisition? How do vindictive lawsuits jibe with listening with "compassion to those who are leaving"? I am already sick at heart to see my church openly violate it's own Articles of religion as well as clear directives in Scripture. How is any lay person to remain an Episcopalian with this sort of leadership in place? The Bishop should heed his own counsel.

David M. Hubbard All Saints, Richmond



Good Cookin'

The Church of the Holy Comforter, Richmond, recently inaugurated a new era in its decades-long history of feeding the hungry, the poor and the homeless. The newly installed commercial grade stove, pictured here with some of the parish's most devoted cooks, brought big smiles to the faces of those who will use it, and will bring comfort and food to those who need it.

NEW from MOREHOUSE PUBLISHING



Finding Jesus, Discovering Self

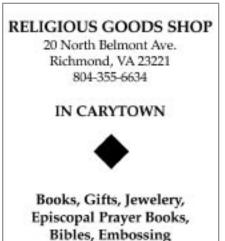
Passages to Healing and Wholeness Caren Goldman and William Dols See Jesus with new eyes, then explore questions about how 2,000-yearold stories happen in the world and in our lives today. A perfect volume for personal reflection or group study, and a unique resource for Lent.

CAREN GOLDMAN is a Jewish journalist and a frequent contributor to Spirituality and Health and other magazines. She lives in Massachusetts.

WILLIAM DOLS, an Episcopal priest, is the creator and editor of *The Bible Workbench* and an acclaimed preacher and retreat leader. He lives in Virginia.



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A Letter from Shannon Johnston

Dear Diocesan Family,

It has taken me some time to accept the fact that I cannot put into words what I have felt and continue to experience in my election as bishop coadjutor of The Diocese of Virginia. On the day of the election I was simply overwhelmed by your support, all the more so since I have such respect and, thanks to the nominees' tour, true personal affection for my colleagues in this process. I accept your discernment with much happiness, gratitude and humility. Of course, I am very excited about the prospects for our ministry together in this remarkable diocese and I know that I am blessed indeed to have a mentor in Bishop Peter Lee. In prayer and openness of heart, I will do all that I can to be faithful to this call, a charge that is both to lead and to serve.

Ellen and I are so very grateful for the many expressions of support you have offered to us.

continued from page 1 /

will be consecrated on Saturday, May 26 at Washington National Cathedral. He will begin work in the days prior to his consecration, and he and his wife, Ellen, are expected to take up residency in the Diocese this spring.

Business of the Diocese

On Saturday, Jan. 27, 14 courtesy resolutions were adopted. These resolutions honor individuals and institutions important to the Diocese. Honorees were the Rev. Genevieve Murphy; the Rev. Rufus Womble; the Rev. Roma W. Maycock; Mrs. Mildred C. Jamison; Mr. and Mrs. Dick and Thelma Moomaw and Mr. and Mrs. John and Judi Moomaw; the Rev. David Poist and Betsy Poist; Mrs. Holly Reid Semple; Bishop Payne Divinity School; the Rev. Lauren Stanley; Ms. Donna C. Blackistone; the Rev. Canon John Reeves Frizzell, D.D., Ms. Phebe Hoff; the Rt. Rev. John Paterson; and the candidates who stood for election for bishop coadjutor.

In addition to the 14 courtesy resolutions, eight regular resolutions were considered by Council. R-1 commended the establishment of day laborer sites and was adopted (see R-1 story, page 6). R-2, a resolution that offered a new process for submitting and considering resolutions, was referred to / continued on page 5 La versión en español de la carta del Rvdo. Deán Shannon Johnston está en www.thediocese.net

The Nominating Committee was graciousness itself throughout their work, and the Transition Committee has taken wonderful care of us all the while—with the daunting task of seeing us through my eventual investiture as diocesan bishop. Between now and my consecration, I will be able to make some visits to Virginia to look after the many things that are involved in such a transition. We will be buying a house and I will familiarize myself with as much of the diocesan life as this relatively brief time allows. I have already spent a week becoming acquainted with your staff and some of the diocesan leadership, and we have

shared some fine personal time with Bishop and Mrs. Lee. This has certainly heightened our energy and anticipation of all that lies ahead. We continue to know and to hold your prayers; please know how deeply you are being held in mine.

I can hardly wait to come to know you as family in Christ. It will be such a privilege to share in your journeys of faith in your own places of worship and life. The riches of The Diocese of Virginia's history, current mission and boundless future happily beckon us all to step out into God's grace. Ellen and I know that this is what we are doing now, and we give thanks to God that the Holy Spirit has moved to bring us to this place with you.

Faithfully yours, The Very Rev. Shannon S. Johnston Bishop Coadjutor-elect



Tellers distribute the first ballot for the election of bishop coadjutor as other delegates place their votes.

Lenten Retreat: An Enneagram Workshop

Saturday, March 3 St. George's Fredericksburg

Determining your spiritual "type" in the Enneagram method and how it can improve your spiritual life.

Contact: Carol Thomson 800-DIOCESE cthomson@thediocese.net

Clergy & Spouse Marriage Retreat

March 18-20 Roslyn Retreat Center, Richmond

Leaders:

The Rev. and Mrs. Clay Turner Clay and Jane are trained facilitators with the Marriage Enrichment Program. Clay has recently retired as rector of the Church of the Advent in Spartanburg, S.C.

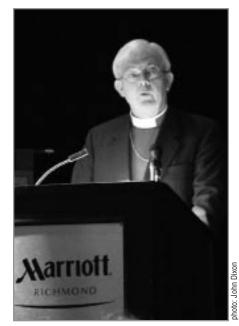
Contact: Carol Thomson, cthomson@thediocese.net



continued from page 4 /

the Committee on Constitution and Canons. R-3, which endorsed The ONE Campaign and the Millennium Development Goals, was adopted, as was R-4 which designated Oct. 30 as a memorial for James Markham Ambler. A revised version of R-5 recommends that the Bishop appoint a commission to discern a possible "emerging consensus" regarding the permitting of "local option" for same-gender blessings. This revised resolution was adopted (see R-5 story, page 6). Both R-6, which expresses support for faithful Episcopalians, and R-7, which calls for a study of companion diocese relationships, were adopted. An eighth resolution that was submitted from the Council floor urged the Diocese to consider negotiation over litigation in the matter of churches voting to leave the Diocese. This resolution was withdrawn by its submitter before coming to a vote on the Council floor.

The five proposed amendments to the Constitution and Canons fostered a good deal of discussion. C-1, which provided for a policy of absentee voting on the parish level and was submitted by the Task Force on Absentee Voting, failed. C-2 and C-3 were both referred to the Committee on Constitution and Canons. C-2 addressed the appointment of vestry committes for mission churches, while C-3 addressed the incorporation of churches under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. C-4, which was adopted on first reading, allows for Council representation for two collegiate delegates. Since this is a constitutional amendment, it requires passage by consecutive meetings of the Council. Canonical Amendment C-5, however, went into effect directly after being adopted with a 2/3 majority at Council.



Bishop Lee gives his address. See page 7 for the complete text.

C-5 deals with the election of the Commission on Ministry (see C-5 story page 6).

The full text of the resolutions and amendments can be found online at www.thediocese.net.

New in 2007

Missing from this year's Council were the clergy of the 15 congregations who voted to leave the Diocese, 21 of whom were declared inhibited on Jan. 24. Under article III of the diocesan Constitution, "no member of the Clerical order under ecclesiastical censure shall be entitled to a seat in the Council." While the 15 churches that separated from the Diocese did not have representation, three of those churches have maintained Episcopal congregations. The Falls Church Episcopal, Falls Church, St. Margaret's Episcopal, Woodbridge and St. Stephen's Episcopal, Heathsville all had seat, voice and vote on the Council floor (see story page 17).

Finances

Council delegates approved a \$4.5 million budget for 2007, a 5% increase from 2006. The additional income was supplied in large part from increased church pledges. 2007 pledges included 85 pledge amounts which were increases from 2006, 48 which stayed the same and 32 which decreased. +

Bishop Coadjutor Consecration

The consecration of the Very Rev. Shannon S. Johnston is slated for May 26 at Washington National Cathedral, pending approval by a majority of bishops and Standing Committees of The Episcopal Church. More information regarding the consecration service will be made available online at www. thediocese.net.



Offering Benefits Bread for the World

At the Annual Council Eucharist on Jan. 26, almost \$6,000 was collected during the offertory, which will go to support Bread for the World. Bread for the World is "a Christian voice for ending hunger in God's world," providing millions of dollars annually for anti-poverty efforts worldwide. Bread for the World supports The ONE Campaign and the Millennium Development Goals.

Retreat for Engaged Couples

March 23-25 at Shrine Mont Contact: Carolyn Chilton at cchilton@thediocese.net

A supplement to parish-based marriage counseling with focus on theology, communications, finances, intimacy, family relationships.

Vestry Education Day

Saturday, March 10 All Saints', Richmond

Understanding of your role in the leadership of the church; becoming a church that is focused on your future.

Contact: Carol Thomson, cthomson@thediocese.net

A Closer Look at Resolutions and Amendments

Day Labors, Local Option and Discernment

by Emily Cherry

R-1: Supporting Day Laborers in Northern Virginia

R-1 evolved out of controversy over a special site created for day laborers in Herndon. Workers were congregating at a local convenience store which quickly became know for its litter and unruly behavior. It was "creating health and safety issues affecting the entire community," said Paul Conroy of St. Timothy's, Herndon. Moreover, some of the workers were being taken advantage of when contractors would refuse to pay the mostly immigrant workers.

To alleviate the strain on the community and create a better work environment, the town set aside an unused parking lot as a gathering space for the laborers. Contractors come to the site, tell an operations officer their labor needs for the day, and then men are selected for the job based on a lottery system. If the contractor fails to pay the laborers, that contractor is no longer allowed to use laborers from the official site.

The site has been the subject of much controversy in Herndon. Newly elected town officials are working to close the site, while others are hoping to keep it operational. Mr. Conroy and St. Timothy's became supporters of the site not only because it ensures that the workers are treated in a fair manner, but because it provides for a safer and cleaner community. The St. Timothy's men's group built picnic benches for the work site, which has been operational for about one year. Once a month, they also bring sandwiches to the approximately 100 men who gather there.

Mr. Conroy crafted a resolution in support of the labor site because "these people are now being treated in a humane and equitable manner." The resolution "commends the actions of elected officials and community leaders who have established and are establishing sites at which day laborers are treated fairly and in a manner which benefits their communities." The resolution was approved by the St. Timothy's vestry members and published in the local paper before going on to be approved by Region V of the Diocese. The recent adoption of the resolution at Council calls for it to be presented at the next General Convention in 2009.

Clarifying R-5: Investigating "Local Option"

As submitted, R-5 originally resolved that Council "recommend

to the Bishop that a policy of 'local option' on the parish level be adopted concerning the practice of blessing same sex unions, such that no parish shall be compelled to allow such a liturgy, and that none shall be prohibited from developing or celebrating such a liturgy, but that each parish may develop its own practice and position on this issue."

R-5 was the subject of an open hearing on Friday evening during Council. After consideration, the Committee on Resolutions created a substitute resolution to be voted upon on Council floor. This resolution recommends that the Bishop "appoint a commission to discern a possible 'emerging consensus' regarding the permitting of 'local option' for the blessing of same-sex unions." The resolution in its amended form was adopted.

"We are deeply appreciative that the resolutions group heard that, that they took it seriously," said the Rev. Jim Papile of St. Anne's, Reston, one of the original submitters of the resolution. "In the end we think it's a reasonable substitution." He added, "We didn't think it would pass ... but we knew that ... it needed to be heard."

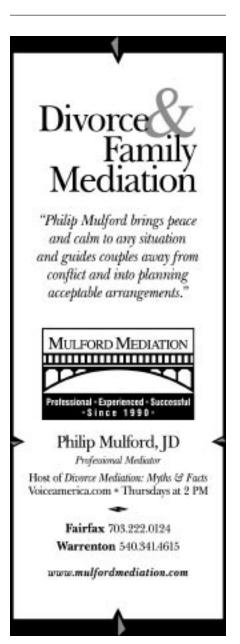
Bishop Lee has appointed the Rev. John Ohmer to chair the commission. Additional appointments are expected later.

Clarifying C-5: Commission on Ministry

In 2002, Bishop Lee created a task force to examine the process for discerning calls to leadership, both lay and ordained. The Task Force on Ministry, aided by grants from the Mustard Seed Fund and the Jesse Ball duPont Foundation, succeeded in implementing a new discernment and formation process that includes making discernment available to all baptized persons, providing opportunities for leadership development to laity and clergy and establishing the diaconate as a separate and equal order in the Diocese.

Implementation of the new process began in 2006 with the training of 12 Diocesan Spiritual Discernment Facilitators who prepare and facilitate Parish Discernment Committees. Diocesan Discernment Retreats are held three times yearly to provide an introduction to the new spiritual discernment and formation programs. Plans for a new Episcopal Leadership Institute and Deacons Formation Institute are underway.

The revisions to diocesan canon as approved in C-5 will align existing diocesan structures to better support this new discernment and formation process, and will bring diocesan canons in line with the provisions of Title III (Ministry) of the general Church canons. This revision defines the duties of the Commission on Ministry, including advising and assisting the Bishop (a) in the determination of present and future opportunities and needs for the ministry of all baptized persons and (b) in the design and oversight of the ongoing process for recruitment, discernment formation for ministry and assessment of readiness therefore. This revised canon puts all the canonically prescribed functions under a single Commission, as well as providing the Commission flexibility in organizing to carry out these responsibilities. The canon also provides for both the appointment and the election of Commission on Ministry membership. +



Bishop Peter James Lee's Pastoral Address to the 212th Annual Council

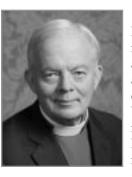
Four hundred years ago, a group of some 144 men and boys crowded together on three small ships. They had left London on December 20, 1606, headed for Virginia. Those three ships are pictured on the seal of the Diocese. For the first six weeks, heavy seas and winds confined them to the stormy English Channel and only in late January 1607 did the ships sail out into the Atlantic, headed first for the Canary Islands, then the West Indies, and they finally landed on what they called Jamestown Island in Virginia on May 14, 1607. On that day, Anglican Christianity took its first step here in Virginia with the arrival of the settlers along with their chaplain, the Rev. Robert Hunt. The men and boys began their efforts to settle in. The settlers had contracted with the Virginia Company, a private organization, with four goals: to find a quick water route to the Orient; to find gold; to export goods, both raw commodities and manufactured goods, back to the mother country; and to convert the indigenous peoples to the Christian faith.

In no time, reality overwhelmed their intentions. No quick route to the Orient was ever found. The exploration for gold failed in Virginia. It was years before a lucrative market in tobacco developed and attempts to convert indigenous peoples to Christian faith suffered periods of hostility and violence between the settlers and the indigenous peoples.

We know the end of the story—against bitter setbacks, Jamestown survived and by the 1620s became a royal colony rather than a commercial venture. Those first settlers knew disappointment and conflict: conflict among themselves aboard the ships and in their settlement, hostilities with the indigenous peoples. In the Church of England in the early 17th Century, there were divisions and stresses that we continue to experience today. There were those who opposed bishops, people who believed that the settlement reached by Queen Elizabeth I in establishing a broad church, united in essentials and tolerant of diversity, was insufficient in their view, and those dissidents sought to overturn that settlement. They are still at it.

Episcopalians enter the fifth century as the oldest continuing Christian community in Virginia, as a diocese in communion with Canterbury, respectful of the breadth of our tradition, and centered in our Orthodox faith in the risen and ascended Christ. The theme of this 212th Annual Council is, "ONE Church : ONE Mission." The Church in Virginia now and in the past has known divisions and stresses. As I travel around the Diocese and read your newsletters, it is clear to me that the great majority of our churches, our clergy and our people share two emphases: the mission of reconciliation at the heart of our Christian faith and the unity we have with one another and the Anglican Communion across the world. We recognize that some people experience that unity and breadth as insufficient for the exercise of their faith. We respect their consciences but also must respond when people who no longer share our mission, seek to leave and take with them property that belongs to all of us and to our grandchildren in the faith. Our differences with the congregations that have departed the Diocese are not about property but about legacy. The church buildings of The Diocese of Virginia were given by generations past to be Episcopal churches for generations to come and we are committed to protecting that legacy.

We have the strong support of the Presiding Bishop and the General Church in seeking to recover the properties now occupied by persons who are no longer loyal to The Episcopal Church and to The Diocese of Virginia.



My experience with the leadership of the departing members is that compromise and accommodation with difference among fellow Christians are especially difficult for them. When members of the churches informed me of their decision to leave in December, I wrote the rectors of each, asking them to assure me that provision would

be made for faithful Episcopalians to have access to worship according to Episcopal discipline. The response was that such an accommodation might be possible as part of an eventual, overall settlement but clearly was rejected for now. That was, for me, the last straw in repeated experiences of hard line practice by people who do not welcome the breadth of The Episcopal Church.

There are at this Council delegates of three congregations where majorities who voted chose to depart. These delegates were elected by vestries reconstituted in parish meetings in the last three weeks at St. Stephen's, Heathsville; St. Margaret's, Woodbridge; and The Falls Church. In addition, there are two members of the Church of the Epiphany, Herndon, who are present as guests while the loyalists in that congregation seek to reorganize. One of them is Mrs. Marilyn Reardon, whose late husband Bill was the founding vicar of the Church of the Epiphany. Please welcome these loyal and courageous Episcopalians who seek to protect the legacy of faith that we hold as one church with one mission.

I hope this year of commemoration of 400 years of Anglican tradition will reinforce our grateful sense of where we have been, unite us in our life today, and inspire us for the mission that is to come.

The principal exercise of this Council will be the election of a bishop coadjutor who will eventually become the 13th Bishop of The Diocese of Virginia. Your Nominating Committee has worked for a year and has presented to you five faithful, effective priests for your consideration. I believe that election and the presence at this council of the Rt. Rev. John Paterson, the Bishop of Auckland, New Zealand, and the Chair of the Anglican Consultative Council, both testify to the hopefulness of our future here in Virginia and in the worldwide Anglican Communion.

The canons of The Episcopal Church declare that, "Before an election of a Bishop Coadjutor, the Diocesan Bishop shall read or cause to be read, to the convention, the Bishop's written consent to the election. The consent shall state the duties to be assigned to the Bishop Coadjutor when ordained. The consent shall form part of the proceedings of the Convention. The duties assigned by the Diocesan Bishop to the Bishop Coadjutor may be enlarged by mutual consent." Canon III.19.1(c).

The election of the bishop coadjutor has my full consent. I expect the bishop coadjutor, once he or she is ordained, to have oversight of the deployment process in The Diocese of Virginia so that he or she is directly involved in the call of clergy for the future well being of this diocese. I have consulted with Lindsay Ryland, our very effective deployment officer, who supports this assignment of duties.

The canons of the General Church require that a diocesan bishop resign no later than three years after the consecration of a bishop coadjutor. The canons also require every bishop to resign when he or she turns 72 years old. Those dates coincide for / *contined on page 8*

contined from page 7 / me so that I will resign as bishop of Virginia no later than 2010 and in consultation with the bishop coadjutor, the Standing Committee and most significantly, my wife and family, I may well resign earlier than that.

For most of my episcopate, I have worked alongside other bishops. First, I was Bishop Coadjutor to Bishop Robert Hall, our late diocesan, and worked closely as well with Bishop David Lewis, our late suffragan. And then, with the permission of the Council, we called the Rt. Rev. Robert P. Atkinson, as our assistant bishop, to bring his gifts to strengthen our ministry. Bishop Atkinson is here today. After Bishop Atkinson retired, the Council elected as suffragans, first, Bishop Clay Matthews and than Bishop David C. Jones. Then the Council authorized me to call Bishop Frank Gray as our assistant bishop. Each one has unique gifts to offer and I am grateful for the ministry of each.

With the consecration of the bishop coadjutor on May 26, 2007, in the Washington National Cathedral, we will have a three-bishop team-a college of bishopsback in place in The Diocese of Virginia. With most bishops, I find that visits to congregations are the highlight of the ministry you have given us. In 2007 and 2008, we are on a two-year visitation schedule so that every congregation in The Diocese of Virginia will receive a visit by a Virginia bishop sometime during 2007 or 2008. In addition, Bishop Jones and I will preside at supplemental services for confirmation, two of them on Saturday, April 21, 2007, one at Good Sheperd, Burke, and the other at St. Mary's Church in Goochland County. We will then have an additional service of confirmation in the Cathedral Shrine at Shrine Mont on Saturday, May 5, 2007. On Saturday, March 10, 2007, Bishop Jones and I will participate in a Youth Confirmation Preparation Day at Trinity Church, Fredericksburg. I hope many of you who have young people who are candidates for confirmation and have been participating or are now participating in confirmation classes, will present your candidates this spring at these joint services as well as presenting candidates whenever a bishop visits your congregations.

Later today, you will meet clergy who are new to The Diocese of Virginia. Another great strength of our Diocese is the addition of new clergy. Because of the dynamism and mission of The Diocese of Virginia, clergy are eager to serve here and we welcome clergy from many different parts of our Church and find their gifts flourishing in our midst.

Another source of strength in recent years is an increasing number of young people seeking vocations in the ordained ministry. That is a testament to you, the leaders of our local churches, who help identify young people even in high school and certainly in college, who might have the spiritual gifts necessary for leadership in the Church.

As we emphasize our Council theme of ONE Church : ONE Mission, I hope you will recognize these historic strengths of The Diocese of Virginia and affirm them. I have already mentioned strong clergy leadership. The development of excellence among our clergy is an important priority of The Diocese of Virginia.

Another historic strength of The Diocese of Virginia is its emphasis on overseas mission. Buck Blanchard, our director of overseas missions, is helping to identify opportunities for short-term mission trips, especially for smaller churches. We have had teams from the Diocese, joined by Buck, visiting Tanzania, South Africa and the Dominican Republic, just in the last few months. Closer to home, many of our churches have been involved in continuing mission trips to the Gulf Coast, helping dioceses in Mississippi and Louisiana recover from the disastrous effects of hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

One of the ongoing mission emphases of The

Diocese of Virginia is our participation with the Diocese of Liverpool in the Church of England in what we are calling a Triangle of Hope. Bishop Jones and Buck Blanchard, along with others from our diocese, visited Liverpool in November 2006 to help make plans for the Triangle of Hope that will connect the Diocese of Liverpool, The Diocese of Virginia, and dioceses in West Africa in a symbolic and positive affirmation of the faith we have in common that overcomes some of the oppressive traditions that we have inherited. Hundreds of years ago, merchant ships from Liverpool brought manufactured goods to West Africa, traded them for slaves, brought the slaves to Virginia, among New World sites, and then brought cotton and tobacco back to Liverpool. Our Triangle of Hope will be a sign of our rejection of the heritage of racism and of oppression and a sign of our affirmation of the dignity of every human being made in the image of God.

Our overseas mission efforts are connected with an international, ecumenical effort to call attention to the Millennium Development Goals. The Millennium Development Goals are a worldwide effort that seeks to eradicate or reduce the most devastating effects of poverty by the year 2015. The goals are to cut in half extreme poverty and hunger worldwide, to achieve universal primary education, to promote gender equity and empower women, to reduce child mortality, to improve maternal health, to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, to ensure environmental sustainability and to create a global partnership for development with targets for debt relief, development and trade. Our overseas efforts are united with Episcopalians and others across the world in one campaign to reduce poverty in our world by achieving these goals.

I hope you will talk with Buck Blanchard and to others in our Commission on World Mission to see how you can help unite in this important work. A united ministry to reduce poverty is one gospel goal that can unite people with different theological convictions. The second chapter of St. Paul's letter to the Galatians tells the story of how Peter went to Jerusalem, accompanied by Barnabas and Titus, whom we remember today along with St. Timothy, and consulted with Peter, James and John about their theological differences. Paul reports an agreement that they should follow the respective ministries that they felt the Spirit had laid upon them, "Only they would have us remember the poor, which very thing I was eager to do," Paul reports. (Gal. 2:10)

Overseas mission, with an emphasis on reducing poverty, is a strength of The Diocese of Virginia.

Yet another such strength of The Diocese of Virginia is that we have one of the smallest staffs of any large diocese and absolutely the best. Our staff emphasis is to strengthen local ministry. This past year we welcomed Patricia Bjorling to our staff as director of stewardship and development. She works closely with our Stewardship Committee and oversees the process of applications and grants. She is available to you for capital campaign planning and stewardship development.

Emily Cherry joined our staff this past year as a communications assistant. We have relied increasingly on electronic communication and the Communiqué, formerly sent by U.S. Postal Service to lay and clergy leaders of the Diocese, is now sent electronically, allowing for much more timely information to be in the hands of our people.

The Program Office of the Diocese, headed by Carolyn Moomaw Chilton, coordinates program efforts at Shrine Mont, Roslyn and in our diocesan committees. She oversees the work of Paris Ball, our talented assistant program director who supervises the wonderful ministry of our summer camps for young people.

Coordinating all the work of the / contined on page 9

contined from page 8 /

staff, and directing communications, is the Secretary of the Diocese and of the Council, Patrick Getlein. Patrick has been the major point of contact for almost all of our committees and commissions as well as for outside media and his talent is only exceeded by his dedication. Mike Kerr, our chief financial officer, continues to oversee our budget that enables us to strengthen the work of our local churches. I encourage all our churches to review their pledges to our diocesan budget this year in which we hope to consecrate a new bishop so that the ministry of the staff and of the bishops is adequately supported by the pledges of our local churches.

Institutions of the Diocese flourished during 2006. We are prepared for a change in leadership at St. Catherine's School here in Richmond, where Gussie Bannard will step down as head after a wonderful tenure of service and will be succeeded by Laura Erickson, who is head of the Upper School at the Berkeley School, an Episcopal School in Tampa, Florida.

The Very Rev. Martha Horne, President and Dean of the Virginia Theological Seminary, will retire no later than at the end of 2007, or when her successor is chosen. In the presence of this Council, I want to thank Dean Horne for her dedicated and visionary leadership of the seminary so long associated with The Diocese of Virginia.

Dick Moomaw, the director of Shrine Mont, and his brother, John, the assistant director, retired on December 31, 2006, and Dick has been succeeded by his son, Kevin, who is already making his mark in the development of Shrine Mont as an even more effective camp and conference center, serving the churches of The Diocese of Virginia.

Roslyn, our conference center in Richmond's West End, and the retirement communities associated with our diocese, are flourishing.

In addition to our staff, the elected volunteer leadership of The Diocese of Virginia is a major source of our strength. This past year, the Standing Committee of the Diocese, elected by the Annual Council, and the Executive Board elected by the regional councils of the Diocese have met often and have been sources of strength for mission and indicators of our unity. Just in the last two weeks, both the Standing Committee and the Executive Board gathered for special meetings, dealing with the need for the Diocese to sustain the legacy of our churches. The actions by the Executive Board in protecting our legacy and the actions of the Standing Committee in affirming the need for clergy to be loyal to The Episcopal Church were unanimous actions by these groups. Please thank Don Metheny, the vice president of the Executive Board, and Jean Reed, the president of the Standing Committee, as well as all of their members for their loyalty to their Church and vigorous support for ONE Church : ONE Mission in The Diocese of Virginia.

I commend to the attention of Council the exhibitors who are here. Many of them offer programs that can enrich your parish life and strengthen the bonds of friendship that unite us one to another. I encourage you to pay attention to the institutions related to our diocese: Roslyn, Shrine Mont, the Virginia Seminary, our church schools and Virginia Diocesan Homes. All have a role in shaping and forming Christians for mission and ministry. They are part of our heritage, part of our one mission to represent Christ in his ministry of reconciliation.

We are marking 400 years of Anglican presence in Virginia. On June 24, 2007, the four dioceses in Virginia and West Virginia will gather for a celebration of the Holy Eucharist on Jamestown Island. It was on the same Sunday in the ecclesiastical year, the third Sunday after Trinity, when the original settlers at Jamestown gathered in 1607 for a celebration of the Holy Eucharist. We will welcome there the presiding bishop of The Episcopal Church, the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, who will be the preacher. Then, in addition, the Washington National Cathedral will celebrate Virginia State Day on Sunday, October 21, 2007. I hope many of you will make arrangements for some of your people to participate in the Cathedral's celebration of our 400th anniversary. Carolyn Chilton is coordinating our participation in anniversary events with the other Virginia dioceses.

One hundred years ago, the 112th Annual Council of The Diocese of Virginia met at St. James' Church, Warrenton, beginning on May 15, 1907. A special emphasis at that Council was the ministry to young people at the University of Virginia. The Council called for diocesan leadership to work towards establishing a new church adjacent to the grounds of the University of Virginia, and St. Paul's Memorial Church, which is flourishing today, is the result. I should add that the Council also adopted a resolution in May 1907 supporting the closing of 16 open saloons in Charlottesville. There are some themes among Virginians that seem to continue to challenge us.

The celebration of our 300th anniversary a century ago was primarily in October, 1907, when the General Convention met here in Richmond. The Bishop of London was a special guest of the convention and the entire Episcopal Church helped commemorate 300 years of Anglican Christianity in Virginia.

We are one Church with one ministry of reconciliation. I want to express my thanks for the strong support of the elected leaders of our diocese for our mission and for our unity. I also commend the great majority of our clergy, vestries and congregations for their emphasis on mission and unity. And I want to thank, in particular, those persons who would prefer that our diocese take more direct steps towards the inclusion of gay and lesbian people in our common life but have refrained from any actions that would complicate our relationship with the worldwide Anglican Communion. Our diocese has affirmed and commended the Windsor Report. We have multiple international connections and we treat them seriously. We continue to hold to the Orthodox center of Christian faith and, at the same time, in classic Anglican tradition, we respect the breadth and freedom of Anglicanism in its interpretation of our common faith.

This Council is an opportunity to reaffirm mission and unity.

Ministry among young people, the expansion of mission churches, concern for the excellence of clergy, thanksgiving for our Anglican heritage, all of these were themes present at the 112th Council and of the General Convention in 1907 and they are the same themes that we celebrate today—as one Church with one mission, grounded in history, secure in our community, and focused on God's providence for our future. +

God bless you all.

Peter James Lee



Bishop Lee

March 4	
a.m.	Christ Church, Charlottesville
p.m.	McIlhany, Albemarle
March 11	
a.m.	All Saints', Richmond
April 1	
a.m.	All Saints'-Sharon Chapel, Alexandria
April 7	
p.m.	Grace, Alexandria
April 15	
a.m.	St. Paul's, Alexandria
April 22	
a.m.	Christ Church, Alexandria
April 29	
a.m.	Emmanuel, Middleburg
p.m.	St. Stephen's, Catlett

Clergy Changes

+ The Rev. Walter D. Clark, Jr. is serving as interim rector at Beckford Parish—Emmanuel, Woodstock, and St. Andrew's, Mount Jackson.

+ **The Rev. Dr. E. Allen Coffey** is serving as interim vicar at Buck Mountain, Earlysville.

+ **The Rev. Harold N. White** is serving as interim rector at St. Stephen's Episcopal, Heathsville.

+ Correction The Rev. Dr. Genevieve Murphy was the rector, not the vicar, of Buck Mountain Church, Earlysville. Prior to that she was priest-in-charge.

Who We Are

In the Anglican Communion A global community of 73 million Anglicans in 38 member provinces.

The Archbishop of Canterbury

The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Rowan Williams

In the United States

A community of 2.2 million members in 113 dioceses in the Americas and abroad. Organized 1789.

The Presiding Bishop

The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori Episcopal Seat: The Washington National Cathedral

In the Diocese of Virginia

A community of more than 85,000 baptized members and 450 clergy in 38 counties of central, northern and northwestern Virginia, serving the world through 196 churches and missions, six schools, two diocesan centers, and six diocesan homes, and home to the largest Anglican seminary in the world. Organized 1785.

The Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Peter James Lee *The Bishop Suffragan* The Rt. Rev. David Colin Jones

The Mayo Memorial Church House 110 W. Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23220-5095, 804-643-8451, 800-DIOCESE, FAX 804-644-6928.

Episcopal Seat: The Cathedral Shrine of the Transfiguration, Orkney Springs

Bishop Jones

March 4				
a.m.	St. Clare's, Richmond			
March 11				
a.m.	St. Paul's, Charlottesville			
April 1				
a.m.	Church of the Spirit, Kingstowne			
a.m.	Falls Church Episcopal, Falls Church			
April 8				
a.m.	Resurrection, Alexandria			
April 15				
a.m.	St. Andrew's, Richmond			
April 22				
a.m.	St. James's, Richmond			
April 29				
a.m.	Christ Church, Glen Allen			

Deaths

+ **Mrs. Helen Bartlett**, widow of the Rev. William C. Bartlett, a former diocesan priest, died on January 5. Mrs. Bartlett lived in New Jersey and was buried at St. Peter's, Osterville, Mass.

+ **The Rev. James Petty**, retired priest of the Diocese who was living in Black Mountain, N.C., died on January 22. His funeral took place on January 27 at Trinity, Asheville, N.C.

How to reach the Diocesan Staff

Call 800-DIOCESE (346-2373) or 804-643-8451.

Paris Ball, Assistant Program Director	ext. 18
Patricia Bjorling, Director of Stewardship and Development	16
Buck Blanchard, Missioner for World Mission	35
Mary Anne Bryant, Admin. Assist., Office of the Bishop/Global Mission	15
Joy Buzzard, Financial Administrator	22
David Charlton, President, Church Schools	26
Emily Cherry, Assistant for Print Communications	39
Carolyn Chilton, Program Director	29
Marjorie Claybrook, Assistant to the Stewardship and Development Office	
Laura Cramer, Benefits Administrator	40
Tyler Fox, Administrative Assistant to Bishop Jones: 703-824-1325	
Patrick N. Getlein, Secretary of the Diocese, Chief of Staff	30
Karen G. Glasco, Administrative Assistant to Bishop Lee	12
The Rev. Percy Grant, Assistant to the Bishop for Youth Development	24
Peggy Hombs, Coordinator of the Ordination Process	11
Kim Henderson, Corporate Secretary/ Assistant Treasurer,	
Church Schools in the Diocese of Virginia	23
Wilbert "Skeet" Jones, Sexton	28
Linda Keener, Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Diocese	32
Michael J. Kerr, Treasurer	20
Mildred Lofton, Bookkeeper	21
David Norton, Mission Development Consultant	54
Will Packard, Bishop's Clerk	33
Lindsay Ryland, Deployment Officer	13
Karen Smith, Receptionist, Administrative Assistant	10
Carol Thomson, Assistant to the Program Office	27

\oplus N THE CALENDAR

10

Youth Day with the Bishops for Potential Confirmands; St. George's, Fredericksburg; 10 a.m. Contact the Rev. Percy Grant at pgrant@thediocese.net.

Vestry Education Day with speaker

Diana Butler Bass; All Saints', Richmond; 10 a.m. Contact Carolyn Chilton at cchilton@thediocese.net.

15

Regional Deans meeting; Trinity Church, Fredericksburg; 10 a.m.

16

Shrine Mont Volunteer Work Weekend. Call 540-856-2141.

Meeting of the House of Bishops.

18-20

Marriage Retreat for clergy and spouses with the Rev. Clay and Mrs. Jane Turner; Roslyn, Richmond. Contact Carolyn Chilton at cchilton@thediocese.net

19-21

Administrative Professionals Retreat

with Margery Zoet Bankson; Roslyn, Richmond. Contact Carolyn Chilton at cchilton@thediocese.net.

23-25

Preparing for Marriage: A Retreat for Engaged Couples; Shrine Mont. Contact Carolyn Chilton at cchilton@thediocese.net.

23-25

Senior High Weekend for 9-12th graders and the adults who work with them; Shrine Mont. Contact the Rev. Percy Grant at 800-DIOCESE x24 or pgrant@thediocese.net.

23-25

EFM Basic Mentor Training; Virginia Theological Seminary, Alexandria. Contact Jo-Ann Murphy at 804-334-7821 or joannrmurphy@aol.com.

24

Stewardship Conference with speakers theMay 18Rev. Gary Nicolosi and the Rev. Canon HughMagers; Good Shepherd, Burke; 9 a.m.-4 p.m.Contact Patsy Bjorling at pbjorling@thediocese.net or800-DIOCESE x16.

April

6

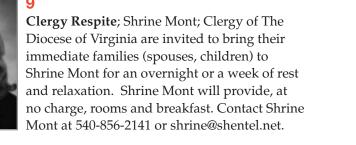
First Fridays; Roslyn, Richmond; Anglican collegial spirituality for clergy and laypersons; 9:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Contact Carolyn Chilton at cchilton@thediocese.net.

Diocesan offices closed for Good Friday.



March 10

March 18-20



Diocesan offices closed for Easter Monday.

12

Joint Meeting of Executive Board, Regional Deans, Regional Presidents and Standing Committee; St. George's, Fredericksburg; 10 a.m.

21

Diocesan Group Confirmation; Good Shepherd, Burke; 11 a.m. Contact Karen Glasco in the Bishop's office at 800-DIOCESE x12.

Diocesan Group Confirmation;

St. Mary's, Goochland; 11 a.m. Contact Karen Glasco in the Bishop's office at 800-DIOCESE x12.

28

Simply Education Day for Christian education directors, teachers and clergy; St. Mark's, Richmond and St. Christopher's, Springfield. Contact the Rev. Percy Grant at pgrant@thediocese.net or 800-DIOCESE x24.

May



First Fridays; Roslyn, Richmond; Anglican collegial spirituality for clergy and laypersons; 9:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Contact Carolyn Chilton at cchilton@thediocese.net.

5

Diocesan Group Confirmation; Shrine Mont; 11 a.m. Contact Karen Glasco in the Bishop's office at 800-DIOCESE x12.

Celebration of the Small Church; Trinity, Washington. Contact Linda Strickland at linda.strickland@comcast.net.

7-9

The Bishop's Spring Conference for clergy, lay professionals and spouses with the Rev. Robert Willis, dean of Canterbury Cathedral; Shrine Mont. Contact Carolyn Chilton at cchilton@thediocese.net.

11

Diocesan Discernment Retreat; Richmond Hill, Richmond; 6 p.m. Contact Peggy Hombs, 800-DIOCESE x11.

18

Magnetic Church Conference for lay leaders and clergy, especially those interested in evangelism and marketing; St. Paul's, Bailey's Crossroads. Visit www. magnetic-church.com or contact Carolyn Chilton at cchilton@thediocese.net.

April 6



April 21



LA CARTA DEL OBISPO

Discurso Pastoral del Obispo Peter James Lee

Cuatrocientos años atrás, un grupo de 144 hombres y niños se apretujaron en tres pequeñas barcas y partieron desde Londres hacia Virginia el 20 de diciembre de 1006. En el escudo de la diócesis se encuentran representas aquellas tres barcas. Durante las primeras seis semanas de navegación las fuertes oleadas y el viento no les permitieron alejarse más allá del Canal de la Mancha y sólo les fue posible continuar su viaje a fines de enero de 1607, dirigiéndose primero a las Islas Canarias, luego a las Antillas Occidentales para desembarcar finalmente en el sitio que llamaron Isla de Jamestown, Virginia, el 14 de mayo de 1607. En aquel momento la fe cristiana anglicana dio sus primeros pasos en Virginia pues junto con los colonos arribó su capellán, el Rev. Robert Hunt. ... Los colonos habían firmado un contrato con la Compañía de Virginia – una corporación privada – con cuatro objetivos: encontrar una vía navegable rápida hacia el oriente; encontrar oro; exportar bienes, tanto materias primas como productos manufacturados a Inglaterra y convertir a los indígenas a la fe cristiana.

Sin embargo, en poco tiempo la realidad se sobrepuso a sus intenciones. Nunca se encontró una vía navegable hacia el oriente. La búsqueda de oro en Virginia no dio resultados. Pasaron muchos años hasta que pudo crearse un mercado lucrativo de tabaco y los intentos de convertir a los indígenas a la fe cristiana se vieron interrumpidos por periodos de violencia y hostilidad entre colonos y nativos.

Sin embargo, conocemos cómo terminó la historia: a pesar de grandes contratiempos Jamestown sobrevivió y en la década del 1620 se transformó en una colonia real en lugar de una empresa comercial. Los primeros colonos supieron de conflictos y frustraciones: conflicto entre ellos durante la navegación y la colonización, y hostilidades con los indígenas. ... Algunos se oponían a la necesidad de un episcopado, otros creían que el acuerdo logrado por la Reina Elizabeth I estableciendo una iglesia amplia, unida en los fundamentos y tolerante de la diversidad era insuficiente y por lo tanto trataron de abolirlo. Y todavía siguen tratando de hacerlo.

Los episcopales comenzarán el quinto siglo de existencia como la más antigua comunidad cristiana permanente en Virginia y como una diócesis en comunión con Cantórbery, respetuosa de la amplitud de nuestra tradición y centrada en nuestra fe ortodoxa en el Cristo resucitado y ascendido. El tema de nuestro 2120 Concilio Anual es "UNA iglesia: UNA misión". Tanto ahora como en el pasado la iglesia de Virginia ha experimentado divisiones y tensiones. Al viajar por la diócesis y al leer los boletines parroquiales he notado que la gran mayoría de nuestras iglesias, nuestro clero y nuestro pueblo comparten dos énfasis: la misión de reconciliación que es el núcleo de nuestra fe cristiana y la unidad que tenemos unos con otros en la Comunión Anglicana en todas partes del mundo. Reconocemos que algunas personas creen que la unidad y la amplitud son insuficientes para practicar su fe. Respetamos sus conciencias pero debemos responder cuando quienes no comparten nuestra misión tratan de salir y llevarse consigo las propiedades que nos pertenecen a todos nosotros y a nuestros nietos en la fe. Nuestras diferencias con las congregaciones que se han apartado de la diócesis no son sobre propiedades sino sobre nuestra herencia. Los edificios de las iglesias de la Diócesis de Virginia fueron dados por generaciones pasadas para que sean iglesias episcopales para las generaciones venideras y nos sentimos comprometidos a defender este legado. ...

Mi experiencia con los líderes de las comunidades salientes ha sido que el compromiso y el acomodo con las diferencias entre otros cristianos son particularmente difíciles para ellos. Cuando los miembros de estas iglesias me informaron en diciembre sobre su decisión de abandonar la diócesis, le escribí a los rectores de cada una de ellas pidiéndoles que me aseguraran que se proveería para los fieles episcopales que quieren continuar siguiendo la disciplina episcopal. La respuesta fue que tal acomodo sería posible como parte de posible acuerdo integral pero que por ahora claramente estaba rechazado. Para mí esta fue la última gota de una serie de experiencias y actitudes intolerantes por personas que no acepan la amplitud de la Iglesia Episcopal. ...

Espero que en este año en que conmemoramos los 400 años de tradición anglicana robustezca nuestro agradecimiento al saber de dónde provenimos, nos una en nuestra vida presente y nos inspire en la misión que tenemos por delante.

La principal tarea de este Concilio será la elección de un obispo coadjutor quien, en el futuro, será el 13er Obispo de la Diócesis de Virginia. El Comité Nominador ha trabajado intensamente durante un año y les ha presentado como candidatos a cinco fieles y dedicados presbíteros. Creo que esta elección y la presencia en este Concilio del Revmo. John Paterson, Obispo de Auckland, Nueva Zelanda y presidente del Consejo Consultivo Anglicano dan testimonio de nuestra esperanza en el futuro en Virginia y en resto de la Comunión Anglicana.

Los cánones de la Iglesia Episcopal dictan que "Antes de la elección de un Obispo Coadjutor, el Obispo Diocesano deberá leer, o pedir que se lea ante la Convención, el consentimiento escrito del Obispo para la elección. El consentimiento deberá indicar las tareas que se le asignarán al Obispo Coadjutor cuando sea ordenado. El consentimiento deberá formar parte de las actas de la Convención. Las tareas asignadas por el Obispo Diocesano al Obispo Coadjutor podrán ser ampliadas de mutuo acuerdo." (Canon III.19.1(c).

La elección de un Obispo Coadjutor cuenta con mi pleno consentimiento. Espero que el Obispo Coadjutor, después de su ordenación, supervise el proceso de colocaciones del clero en la Diócesis de Virginia para que así se encuentre directamente involucrado en el llamado del clero para el futuro bienestar de la diócesis. ...

Los cánones de la Iglesia Episcopal estipulan que el obispo diocesano deberá renunciar a más tardar tres años después de la consagración de un obispo coadjutor. Además, también indican que todos los obispos deben jubilarse cuando cumplen 72 años. Estas fechas coinciden para mi y renunciaré a mi cargo de Obispo de Virginia a más tardar en 2010 pero, en consulta con el Obispo Coadjutor, el Comité Permanente y, más importante, con mi esposa y familia, podría renunciar antes de tal fecha. ...

Con la consagración del Obispo Coadjutor el 26 de mayo de 2007 en la Catedral de San Pedro y San Pablo, en Washington, DC, tendremos nuevamente un equipo de tres obispos – un colegio episcopal – en la Diócesis de Virginia. Junto con los otros obispos, creo que las visitas a las congregaciones son los momentos especiales que Dios nos ha dado para nuestro ministerio. Durante 2007 y 2008 estaremos en un ciclo de visitas de dos años, de manera que cada congregación de la Diócesis de Virginia recibirá la visita de un obispo durante 2007 o 2008. Además, el Obispo Jones y yo presidiremos en celebraciones adicionales para confirmaciones el 21 de abril en Santa María, Arlington, y Santa María, Goochland. Además, el 5 de mayo habrá confirmaciones en el Santuario Catedral de Shrine Mont. ...

Más tarde ustedes tendrán la oportunidad de conocer a los nuevos clérigos en la Diócesis de Virginia. Otra de las grandes riquezas de nuestra diócesis es la incorporación de nuevos clérigos. Debido al dinamismo y la misión de la Diócesis de Virginia, hay clérigos interesados en servir entre nosotros. De esta forma

LA CARTA DEL OBISPO

nosotros recibimos a muchos clérigos de diferentes partes de nuestra iglesia y notamos que sus dones están fructificando en medio nuestro.

Otro aspecto de nuestra riqueza ha sido que en recientes años ha ido aumentando la cantidad de personas jóvenes que están examinando su vocación para servir en el ministerio ordenado. Esta será su herencia, pues ustedes, los líderes de las iglesias locales han ayudado a identificar a jóvenes universitarios, y aun estudiantes de secundaria, que podrían tener los dones espirituales necesarios para ser líderes en la iglesia....

Otro aspecto importante de la vitalidad de la Diócesis de Virginia ha sido nuestro énfasis con las obra misionera más allá de nuestras fronteras. Buck Blanchard, nuestro director de obra misionera de ultramar está ayudando a identificar oportunidades para viajes misioneros de corta duración, especialmente para las iglesias pequeñas. En los últimos meses Buck ha liderado equipos diocesanos que han visitado Tanzania, Sudáfrica y la República Dominicana. Más cerca nuestro, muchas de nuestras iglesias se han involucrado en viajes misioneras a la Costa del Golfo para ayudar a las diócesis de Misisipí y Luisiana a recuperarse del catastrófico impacto de los huracanes Katrina y Rita.

Aun otro aspecto del énfasis misionero de la Diócesis de Virginia es nuestra participación junto con la Diócesis de Liverpool de la Iglesia de Inglaterra en lo que hemos denominado el "Triángulo de la Esperanza". El Obispo Jones, Buck Blanchard y otros miembros de nuestra diócesis viajaron a Liverpool en noviembre de 2006 para coordinar este Triángulo de la Esperanza que unirá a la Diócesis de Liverpool, la Diócesis de Virginia y las diócesis de África Occidental en una simbólica y positiva afirmación de la fe que nos uno y que supera algunas de las tradiciones opresoras que hemos heredado. ... Nuestro Triángulo de la Esperanza será un signo de nuestro rechazo del legado de racismo y opresión y será un signo de nuestra afirmación de la dignidad de todo ser humano creado a la imagen de Dios.

Nuestra obra misionera de ultramar está relacionada con esfuerzos ecuménicos e internacionales que propulsan los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio. Los Objetivos de Desarrollo de Milenio representan el esfuerzo internacional que busca erradicar o reducir los mayores efectos devastadores de la pobreza para el año 2015. ...

La obra misionera de ultramar, con un énfasis en la reducción de la pobreza, es una de las virtudes de la Diócesis de Virginia.

Y otro aspecto positivo de la Diócesis de Virginia es que lo podemos lograr con uno de los grupos más reducidos de funcionarios diocesanos pero, ¡absolutamente el mejor! Nuestros funcionarios ponen énfasis en fortalecer el ministerio local....

Las instituciones diocesanas han prosperado durante 2006. Aquí en Richmond nos hemos preparado para un cambio de líderes en la Escuela Santa Catalina donde Gussie Bannard se jubilará como directora después de un fructífero periodo de servicio y será reemplazada por Laura Erickson, quien hasta ahora era directora del Colegio Secundaria de la Escuela Berkeley, una escuela episcopal de Tampa, Florida.

La Reverenda Martha Horne, Presidenta y Decana del Seminario Teológico de Virginia se jubilará a

más tardar a fin de 2007 o cuando se nombre a su sucesora. .. Dick Moomaw, director de Shrine Mont y su hermano Juan, director asociado se jubilaron el 31 de diciembre de 2006. Dick ha sido reemplazado por su hijo Kevin y quien ya está haciéndose notar en el desarrollo de Shrine Mont como un campamento y centro de conferencias más eficaz al servicio de las iglesias de la Diócesis de Virginia. Roslyn, nuestro centro de conferencias en el oeste de Richmond y las comunidades para jubilados asociadas con nuestra diócesis continúan avanzando.

Además de nuestros funcionarios, los voluntarios que lideran la Diócesis de Virginia son firmes baluartes de nuestra obra. Durante el año pasado el Comité Permanente de la Diócesis, que es elegido por el Concilio Anual y el Consejo Ejecutivo que es elegido por los concilios regionales de nuestra diócesis se han reunido a menudo y han apoyado firmemente nuestra misión y son testimonio de nuestra unidad. En las últimas dos semanas, tanto el Comité Permanente como el Consejo Ejecutivo se han tenido que reunir en sesiones extraordinarias para tratar la necesidad de mantener el patrimonio de nuestras iglesias. Las acciones del Consejo Ejecutivo para proteger nuestro patrimonio y las acciones del Consejo Ejecutivo reafirmando la necesidad que tiene el clero de mantenerse leal a la Iglesia Episcopal fueron tomadas unánimemente....

Estamos celebrando 400 años de presencia anglicana en Virginia. El 24 de junio de 2007 las cuatro diócesis en Virginia y West Virginia se congregarán para una celebración de la Santa Eucaristía en Jamestown Island. Fue en el mismo domingo del año eclesiástico, tercer domingo después de Trinidad de 1607 que los primeros colonos se reunieron en Jamestown para celebrar la Santa Eucaristía. Para la ocasión se hará presente y predicará la Obispa Presidenta y Primada de la Iglesia Episcopal Rvma. Katharine Jefferts Schori. Además, el 21 de octubre de 2007 se celebrará el Día de Virginia en la Catedral Nacional de Washington. Espero que mucho de ustedes puedan hacer los arreglos necesarios para poder participar en la celebración de nuestro 400º aniversario en la Catedral. Carolyn Chilton está encargada de coordinar nuestra participación en las celebraciones del aniversario con las otras diócesis de Virginia. ...

Somos una iglesia con un solo ministerio de reconciliación. Quiero expresar mi agradecimiento por el sólido apoyo de nuestros líderes a nuestra misión y a nuestra unidad. También quiero felicitar a la gran mayoría de nuestro clero, juntas parroquiales y congregaciones por su énfasis en la misión y unidad. Además, particularmente quiero agradecer a quienes hubieran preferido que nuestra diócesis tome pasos más concretos para incluir a personas homosexuales en nuestra vida común pero se han privado de tomar medidas que podrían complicar nuestra relación con la Comunión Anglicana. Nuestra diócesis ha afirmado y recomendado el Informe de Windsor. Tenemos múltiples relaciones internacionales y a todas las tomamos con seriedad. Nosotros continuamos manteniendo el centro ortodoxo de la fe Cristiana y, al mismo tiempo, en forma clásicamente anglicana, respetamos la amplitud y la libertad que hay dentro del anglicanismo para interpretar nuestra fe en común.

El Concilio es una oportunidad para reafirmar nuestra misión y unidad.

El ministerio con nuestra juventud, el aumento de iglesias, la preocupación por contar con un clero excelente, el agradecimiento por nuestra herencia anglicana fueron los temas presentes durante el 1120 Concilio Anual y la Convención General de 1907 y todavía son los temas que hoy celebramos: una iglesia con una misión, enraizada en la historia, segura en nuestra comunidad y concentrada en la providencia de Dios para nuestro futuro. +

El discurso pastoral del Obispo Lee ha sido abreviado. La versión completa en español se encuentra disponible en nuestro sitio Web:

www.thediocese.net/diocese/annual_council.shtml

Regional Appointees and Elected Representatives for 2007

Deans

The deans of the 15 regions of The Diocese of Virginia are appointed by the Bishop and are the Bishop's representatives in each region. Together with the presidents of the regions, they lead their regional council in ensuring the ministrations of the church are available to all persons in each region. An asterisk designates a newly elected dean.

Region I The Very Rev. Kent Rahm, Trinity Church, Fredericksburg Region II The Very Rev. Beth Palmer, St. John's Church, West Point

Region III The Very Rev. Craig Philips, St. Peter's Church, Arlington

- Region IV The Very Rev. Robert Malm, Grace Church, Alexandria
- Region V The Very Rev. Brad Rundlett, St. Timothy's Church, Herndon
- Region VI The Very Rev. Dr. Donald Binder*,

Pohick Church, Lorton

- Region VII The Very Rev. Randall Prior, St. Andrew's Church, Burke
- Region VIII The Very Rev. C. Thomas Jackson*,
- St. Paul's Church, Bailey's Crossroads Region IX The Very Rev. Holly Antolini,
- St. Paul's Church, Richmond Region X The Very Rev. Randolph

Hollerith, St. James's Church, Richmond

- Region XI The Very Rev. David Keill, Christ Ascension, Richmond
- Region XII The Very Rev. Dr. Robert Friend, All Saints' Church, Richmond
- Region XIII The Very Rev. Jennings Hobson, III
- Trinity Church, Washington Region XIV The Very Rev. Stuart Wood,
- Lynnwood Parish, Port Republic
- Region XV The Very Rev. Charles Mullaly, Emmanuel Church, Greenwood

Ecclesiastical Trial Court

Each year Council elects a slate of 11 persons (six clergy and five lay) to form the diocesan Ecclesiastical Trial Court according to diocesan Canon 27. Council adopted the following slate, which was presented by the Standing Committee.

Mr. Julian Bivins, Trinity, Charlottesville The Rev. Penelope M. Bridges,

St. Francis', Great Falls

The Rev. Sue Eaves, St. Thomas', Richmond The Rev. Melissa Hollerith, Chaplain,

St. Christopher's School, Richmond Ms. Barbara Levy, St. John's, McLean The Rev. John Ohmer, St. James', Leesburg Janet P. Peyton, Esq.,

St. James's, Richmond Col. Jean D. Reed, Grace, Alexandria The Rev. Al Reiners, Retired, Richmond

Mr. Joseph Royster, Meade Memorial, Alexandria

The Rev. Beverly Weatherly, St. Andrew's, Arlington

Executive Board

The Executive Board is the governing body of the Diocese of Virginia in between sessions of Annual Council.

Region I Mr. Don Metheny, Trinity, Fredericksburg Region II The Rev. Douglas Geddes, Kingston Parish, Mathews Region III Ms. Carol Burroughs, Trinity, Arlington Region IV Mr. Churchill Gibson, Emmanuel, Alexandria Mr. Rodney F. Page, Region V St. John's, McLean; newly elected vice president Region VI The Rev. John Baker, St. Aidan's, Alexandria Region VII The Rev. Vinnie Lainson, Trinity, Manassas Region VIII The Rev. Grayce O'Neill, St. Alban's, Annandale Region IX Mrs. Myfanwy Hall, St. Paul's, Richmond **Region X** The Rev. Dana Corsello, St. James's, Richmond Region XI The Rev. Ann Kirchmier. The Fork Church, Doswell Region XII The Rev. Laura D. Inscoe, St. Mary's, Goochland Region XIII Mr. Donald H. Cady, Trinity, Upperville Region XIV The Rev. Chris Cunningham, Good Shepherd, Bluemont Region XV Ms. Doris Savage,

Emmanuel, Greenwood ECW President Ms. Anna Lou Flynn, St. James', Louisa

Bishop

- The Rt. Rev. Peter James Lee Bishop Suffragan
- The Rt. Rev. David C. Jones Staff Mr. Patrick N. Getlein,

Coordinator, Secretary of the Diocese Staff Mr. Michael J. Kerr, Treasurer

Regional Presidents

The presidents of the 15 regions of The Diocese of Virginia are elected by each Regional Council. Each Regional Council is composed of members elected by the churches within each region. The presidents work with the deans of each region to convene the Regional Council and ensure the ministrations of the church are available to all persons within the region. Regional Councils also elect representatives to the Executive Board.

Region I Mr. Jack Gaines,

St. Mary's, Colonial Beach

Region II Mr. William Pennell, St. Mary's Whitechapel, Lively Region III Mr. David J. Bell, St. Mary's, Arlington Region IV Ms. Ellen Shreve, St. Clement's, Alexandria, Region V Dr. Dabney Hart, Holy Comforter, Vienna Region VI Mr. Donald D. O'Connell, Pohick, Lorton Region VII Ms. Michele Braithwaite, Good Shepherd, Burke Region VIII Mrs. Mareea E. Wilson, St. Barnabas', Annandale Region VIV Mr. Brian L. Carr, St. Paul's, Richmond Region X Ms. Margaret Jones, St. Mark's, Richmond Region XI Mrs. Gladys E. Lewis, St. Philip's, Richmond Region XII Mr. Rick Gibbs, St. Martin's. Richmond Region XIII Mr. Kenneth Lee, Christ Church, Lucketts Region XIV Mr. Roger Inger, St. Paul's on-the-Hill, Winchester Region XV Ms. Ruth Gibson, Buck Mountain, Earlysville

Standing Committee

The Standing Committee is a 12-member elected council of advice to the Bishop.

Class of 2010 (newly elected)

The Rev. Susan Goff

- St. Christopher's, Springfield
- The Rev. Daniel Robayo Christ Church, Luray
- Ms. Martha W. High St. John's, McLean
- Mr. Alexander H. Slaughter St. James's, Richmond

Class of 2009

The Rev. David H. May Grace, Kilmarnock

- The Rev. Melana Nelson-Amaker Trinity, Charlottesville
- Ms. Sarah R. Bartenstein* St. Mary's, Goochland *newly elected secretary

Mr. John Keith St. Mary's, Arlington

Class of 2008

The Very Rev. Randolph M. Hollerith St. James's, Richmond

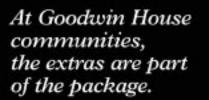
- The Rev. Dr. Hilary B. Smith* St. Paul's on the Hill, Winchester *newly elected president
- Mr. Henry D.W. Burt St. Andrew's, Richmond Mr. Richard F.E. Shirey

St. James-the-Less, Ashland

Colt 29, Bears 17, Trinity 585



different meaning for these children from Trinity, Arlington, who collected non-perishable food and monetary contributions totaling \$585 to benefit the Arlington Food Assistance Center as part of the national Souper Bowl of Caring project. +



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recommendations of the Windsor Report, addressed to other parts of the Communion, appear to have been ignored so far."

Archbishop Aspinall said that the primates were reminded "to remember people in parishes and local clergy who are feeling pain and the sense in the Church that enough is enough."

"One Primate from another province spoke of his experience in dealing with conflict with Anglican bodies and the attempts at healing and noted the assistance that province was given by the instruments of communion," Archbishop Aspinall said, acknowledging that there is a sense of anticipation that the proposed Anglican Covenant will provide a vehicle for healing and reconciliation.

The Covenant was proposed by the Windsor Report in order to give explicit articulation and recognition to the principles of co-operation and interdependence which hold the Anglican Communion together. +

More information about the primates' meeting can be found online at www.episcopalchurch.org/ens/.

Shrine Mont **Volunteer Work** Weekend

March 16-18 Shrine Mont

Contact: Tom von Hemert at TomVH@oar-jacc.org

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Info: Carol Thomson cthomson@thediocese.net

400 Years of Anglicanism – The Book

To help celebrate the anniversary of 400 years of Anglicanism in America, noted church historians Dr. Edward Bond and Dr. Joan Gundersen have joined together to write a new history of the Church in Virginia. Commissioned by The Diocese of Virginia in conjunction with the Virginia Historical Society, this work will be released in a special edition of the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography this summer. Read on for an interview with Dr. Bond and Dr. Gundersen to learn more about their research on The Diocese of Virginia.

1. How did you and Dr. Bond come to work on this project together?

Dr. Joan Gundersen (JG): Dr.

Bond and I have occasionally corresponded about our mutual interests in Virginia history. He suggested we work together on a response to the call for someone to do the history of The Episcopal Church because while we both were early Americanists, our approaches to writing about the Church would complement each other. I am a social historian with an interest in women's history who had written on the Church in the 19th and 20th centuries, and he is more of an intellectual historian. Together we could look at the Church both as a composite of its people and its faith.

Dr. Edward Bond (EB): The Diocese issued a call for proposals to write a history of the Diocese in November 2004. Professor Gundersen and I drafted a proposal and submitted it in January 2005. In April 2005 we learned that our proposal had been selected by the committee.

2. Based on your research, what do you feel are one or two of the defining characteristics of the Diocese?

JG: The strongest characteristics are the flexibility of the Church which has let it regroup, rebuild and respond multiple times to changing conditions while maintaining a theological restraint that was slow to adopt theological innovation.

EB: One characteristic that defines the Diocese is its mission work, both in Virginia and overseas. The Diocese has a long history of missions that really stretches back

to the colonial period when Virginia was in many ways a mission field for a long period.

3. What challenges did you encounter in researching this topic?

JG: The largest challenge was both the richness of materials after 1820 and its spottiness for the earlier materials. The institutional record was large enough after 1820 to make it hard to get to the individual voices of Episcopalians.

A second challenge was distance. Neither Dr. Bond nor I live in Virginia. We had to be very good at accessing materials by long distance and both of us are very grateful for the help archivist Julia Randle at [Virginia Theological Seminary] gave us.

A third challenge was identifying the themes we would follow, several of which had not been part of the narrative in earlier histories. For me this meant documenting the struggle the Diocese went through to become inclusive of all its members, especially women and African Americans.

EB: We encountered a significant number of challenges. First, we had less than two years to research and write a history of the Church's 400 years in Virginia and to try and tell that story in no more than 125 manuscript pages. Second, there are far fewer scholarly articles and books than you might imagine on the Church in Virginia after the American Revolution and the early years of the republic. This meant that we were doing original research for much of the period after 1815. I was shocked when I began to research the period 1840 - 1865 that so little work had been done for that era. There is, of course, some older scholarship on the Civil War, but much of that needs revising now. And so many people have uncritically accepted Bishop Meade's accounts of the Church in antebellum and colonial Virginia. Third, there was always the question of what to put in and what to leave out. This was especially difficult for me when I worked on the last 30 – 40 years of the Church's history. The ordination of women to the priesthood and the 1979 revision of the Book of Common Prayer seemed to be two issues

of enormous importance, but full discussions of those issues (and later the breakaway parishes) limited the amount of space that I could devote to church planting and missions. It also became more difficult in that period (again because of the amount of space) to provide full portraits of all the Diocese's bishops, coadjutors and suffragans.

4. Who were some of the most interesting Episcopalians you encountered in your research?

IG: I think I found Bishop Richard Channing Moore more complex than I had expected. He not only oversaw the process by which the Virginia Church came back from near death, he also had to keep the clergy who were his allies in that rebuilding effort from running roughshod over anyone who stood in their way. The Church was the stronger for his restraint and tact. I also was fascinated by Grace Arents, the Rev. Cary Montague and a whole host of the men and women who worked in the Blue Ridge Archdeaconry. Grace Arents took seriously the responsibility that came with wealth and funded a large portion of the social outreach done by the Church in Richmond during the Progressive Era. She funded schools, city baths, St. Andrew's Parish and many other projects. The Rev. Cary Montague was a remarkable figure who allowed neither failing hearing nor sight to limit his actions as City Missionary in Richmond in the early 1900s, and who lived a life of "Christianity in action." He could mobilize large groups of laity to reach out to the community, and he saw children of God, not people who were white or black or male or female. Montague died at age 83 in 1960. The day he died he provided services at the Church Home, just as he had for the past 40 years. The dedication and willingness to work in hardship to bring education, health, and religion to isolated communities in the Blue Ridge involved so many fascinating people – lay workers, seminarians, deaconesses and priests that it's hard to single one out.

EB: I came to like the Rev. J. H. Wingfield of Trinity Parish in Portsmouth. He was clearly a high churchman, tutored in fact by Bishop / Interview continued on page 20

NEWS OF THE DIOCESE

Congregations Depart while Churches Continue

By Emily Cherry

In January, the final two Episcopal congregations to consider whether to cut ties with The Episcopal Church voted to do just that, bringing the number of congregations in The Diocese of Virginia where a majority of the membership has voted to leave The Episcopal Church and the Diocese to 15. Most votes took place in mid-December 2006.

As of press time, 11 separate suits have been filed by The Diocese of Virginia to reclaim Episcopal Church property, real and personal. The following congregations are named in the suits:

> Christ the Redeemer, Chantilly Church of the Apostles, Fairfax Church of the Epiphany, Herndon Church of Our Saviour, Oatlands Church of the Word, Gainesville Potomac Falls, Sterling St. Margaret's, Woodbridge St. Paul's, Haymarket St. Stephen's, Heathsville Truro, Fairfax The Falls Church, Falls Church

No complaints have been filed against the following four congregations: All Saints', Dale City (subject to a separate agreement over property whereby the Diocese retains all consecrated property); Christ Our Lord, Lake Ridge (this congregation abandoned and vacated its property and the Diocese retains ownership); South Riding Church (this mission in formation had no real property and returned its personal property to the Diocese); and Holy Spirit, Ashburn (this mission had no real property and turned its personal property over to Truro Church, its founding church).

Specifically, in its suits the Diocese seeks:

• A declaration that the congregations have made improper claims regarding Episcopal Church property ("declaring that there has been an improper trespass, conversion, alienation and use of the real and personal property");

• A court order upholding the interest in the property of the Diocese ("the trust, proprietary and contract rights of the Diocese");

• An order restraining further use and occupancy of the property by the separated congregations;

• An order conveying legal title to and control of the property to the Bishop of the Diocese; and

Seven Priests Ordained



Bishop Lee and Bishop Jones joined seven ordinands at Holy Comforter, Vienna on Feb. 3 to celebrate their ordination into the priesthood. (left to right) Mark Daniel Furlow, Robert Andrew Becker, Susan Daughtry Fawcett, Eleanor Lee Wellford, Bishop Lee, Bishop Jones, William Parish Peyton, Michael Bruce Hinson, Amanda Kucik Rinas • An order requiring a full accounting of the "use of all real and personal property" by the separated congregations.

The Diocese also has been joined in this effort by the national Episcopal Church, which filed a separate omnibus suit against the same 11 congregations seeking similar remedies.

Despite these departures, however, and the legal wrangling over property which is now underway, there are encouraging signs of life.

In his Jan. 18 letter, Bishop Lee said, "When the membership of these congregations voted to sever their ties with The Episcopal Church and affiliate with CANA [Convocation of Anglicans in North America], they left remaining Episcopal Congregations in those places without vestries, without clergy and without their churches, whether the remaining congregations numbered one or 100 souls. The spiritual abandonment of their Episcopal brothers and sisters of the past, the present and the future, is perhaps the greatest offense for which there is no redress under our tradition."

Three groups of parishioners from the departing congregations have decided to maintain their Episcopal identity.

St. Stephen's Episcopal, Heathsville, is currently 58 members strong, meeting at a United Methodist Church with interim rector the Rev. Harold White on Sundays at 8 a.m. A steady outpouring of letters, financial contributions and prayers has helped maintain the spirits and vitality of this growing congregation. Bishop Jones paid an Episcopal visit to St. Stephen's on Feb. 18. They plan to spend Lent "discovering what we want our mission and ministry to be as we move forward," said Sandra Kilpatrick, senior warden.

Meanwhile, about 100 members of Falls Church Episcopal continue to gather, holding weekly Eucharist services in the fellowship hall of Falls Church Presbyterian with various guest preachers. "It would be universally regarded on our part ... that we would like to get back into / Depart continued on page 20

Mission: Getting Involved in 2007

by Emily Cherry and Anne Gordon Curran

Looking for some inspiration to jumpstart your mission trip plans? Your search ends here. Read on to learn how Hope for Humanity is working to create a school in Sudan, or to find out how some ECW members are helping to lay the groundwork for enhancing diocesan partnerships with parishes in South Africa. These connections, and others, could be your church's passport to global mission.

Walking for a New School in Sudan

Hope for Humanity, Inc. started in 1999 when a Richmond couple joined with their parish to help the youngest victims of an ongoing civil war in Sudan. After a diocesan-sponsored mission trip in 2002, Darryl and Jennifer Ernst began sponsoring several Sudanese students' educations. Hope for Humanity, Inc. was founded by Jennifer, Darryl, and "Lost Boy" Maker Mariel in December 2004 as an organization dedicated to growing educational opportunities for the future leaders

of Sudan.

Only 20% of children attend school in southern Sudan. In the Rumbek area there are 1.5 million children and only one secondary school in existence. Hope for Humanity has a mission to create another secondary school in the region. "We feel that providing additional educational opportunities can help to . . . bring about some change in that society," said Ms. Ernst.

The Ernsts have hired a civil engineer, Raymond Chisholm, to investigate construction techniques for the new school. Originally of Blacksburg, Va., Mr. Chisholm is living in Nairobi. Construction is expected to start this spring.

How Can You Help?

Hope for Humanity is hard at work trying to raise funds for the new school in Sudan. In 2004 they held their first Annual Walk for Sudan fundraiser, splitting the proceeds between two regions of Sudan. This year's Walk for Sudan will take place on Sunday, May 6 at 2 p.m. at Deep Run High School track in Richmond. Individuals and parish groups are needed to walk and raise money. Pledge amounts of any amount (not per mile) are welcome and tax deductible. In the past, parishes that have not been able to travel to Richmond have held similar walks in their own area on the same day, sending the proceeds to Hope for Humanity.

Fore more information, visit http://hopeforhumanityinc.org.

Building a Partnership in South Africa

The Ven. David Dinkeboglie greeted Anne Gordon Curran and Sharon Kilpatrick after a 15-hour flight to Johannesburg, South Africa in December 2006. Both members of the Episcopal Church Women's South Africa Committee, the two women went to South Africa for two weeks to bring to reality the stories they had heard and to meet the people who were to enrich their lives well into the future.

Fr. David visited The Diocese

of Virginia last July for three and a half weeks. Hosted by the Very Rev. Randolph Hollerith and St. James's, Richmond, his visit covered much of the Diocese, including Shrine Mont, Roslyn and Virginia Theological Seminary. His trip pulled many people together as

gracious hosts for a multi-faceted visit in which so many lives were touched by his stories of South Africa, his openness to learn more and meet people, and his experiences in life and ministry as a priest of the people.

Ms. Curran and Ms. Kilpatrick used their visit to South Africa to see in action the ministries which their Committee supports. They attended a youth rally for World AIDS, which involved over 1,000 youth from the Dioceses of Christ the King / continued on page 19





Top: Students learn under the trees in southern Sudan. *Bottom:* Students take a break from learning. photos: Courtesy of Hope for Humanity, Inc

continued from page 18 /

and Johannesburg, the first joint effort of its kind. They also visited their parishes' partner parishes in the Diocese of Christ the King.

The groundwork has been laid for a return trip to take more ECW members to visit their sisters in Christ in South Africa.

How Can You Help?

The Commission on South African Partnership receives an annual budget from the Diocese and uses that to help support the training of lay leadership and seminary for new priests in Christ the King. They also try to link churches in Virginia with churches in Africa for ongoing relationships in prayer, mission, outreach and growth. These links have proven to enrich people's lives and parishes on both sides of the ocean. A new opportunity is a scholarship fund to help send priests' children and promising children of poverty from other Anglican programs to the prestigious St. Martin's Anglican School.

The South African Committee has to raise money to support the ministries in which we serve in partnership. Over the years the ECW Committee and diocesan Commission have sent teams to visit Christ the King to keep relationships open and see firsthand the ministries they support. They have also brought individuals and groups to visit in The Diocese of Virginia.

Over the years the relationships in both dioceses have grown in number and in depth. Money is always needed in a developing country where extensive poverty still exists and AIDS is a major killer. Those who wish to serve on the Committee or Commission are welcome. Committee representatives will be visiting Christ the King in the spring of 2008 for two weeks. Contact the Rev. Jeunée Cunningham, chair of the Commission for South African Partnership (703-779-3616 or pastor@saintgabriels.net) or Anne Gordon Curran, chairman of the South Africa Committee (804-285-4210 or charliegang@comcast.net) if you'd like to make a contribution, join the Committee or Commission or partner your parish with one in Christ the King. +

The Mollegen Forum at Virginia Seminary Friday, April 27, 2007

9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

The Water of Life: Earth's Water Crisis

Keynote Speaker The Rt. Rev. Frank T. Griswold

Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church 1987 - 2006

Participants Ms. Martha Franks Environmental Attorney The Rev. Canon Peter Kreitler Founder, "Earth Talk Today" Mr. Fred Pearce Author, "When the Rivers Run Dry"

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VIRGINIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

3737 Seminary Road Alexandria, VA Please make reservations by April 20 at 703.461.1714 or vdooley-burney@vts.edu.

Upcoming Mission Trips

Churches in the Diocese are busy making plans for mission trips in 2007. In addition to trips overseas, many parishes and youth groups continue to send help to the still-devastated Gulf Coast region. Following is a list of parishes that have planned mission trips for April through August of 2007. If your parish is going on a mission trip that is not included on this list, please contact Mary Anne Bryant at mabryant@thediocese.net.

April

April 9-15; **Mission on the Bay, M.S**.; St. James', Louisa

May

May 7-14; **San Pedro, Honduras**; St. James's, Richmond May 30-June 12; **Akok, Sudan**; St. James's, Richmond

June

June 2-9; **Tegucigalpa, Honduras** – El Hogar; Trinity, Fredericksburg June 20-27; **Portrero Grande, Honduras**;

All Saints', Richmond June 23-30; Valle Crucis, N.C. Towel Ministry; St. Mary's, Arlington Senior High

June 23-July 1; **Pascagoula, M.S**.; St. Francis, Manakin-Sabot

June 24-30; **companion parish visit in Honduras**; St. Mary's, Arlington

June 24-30; **companion parish youth visit in London**; St. Mary's, Arlington

June 24-30; **East Coast Virginia**; St. Matthew's, Sterling Youth Works Trip

July

July 14-21; South Dakota – Rosebud-Lakota Sioux Tribe; St. George's, Fredericksburg

July 14-21; **Swansboro, N.C. Towel Ministry**; St. Mary's, Arlington Youth Trip

July 14-22; Long Beach, M.S. Camp Coast Care; St. Matthew's, Richmond

July 16-20; **Navajo Reservation, Bluff, U.T.**; Christ Church Alexandria

July 18-28; **Pine Ridge Reservation, S.D.**; Calvary, Front Royal Youth Trip

July 21-29; **Rosebud-Sioux Reservation, S.D.**; St. Peter's, Arlington

JUly 22-30; **San Perro Sala, Honduras- Our** Little Roses; Christ Church, Alexandria

July 22-30; Long Beach, Miss. Camp Coast Care; St. Mary's, Arlington

August

Aug. 5-13; **San Pedro, Honduras – Our Little Roses**; St. George's, Fredericksburg

Aug. 11-18; **Dominican Republic**; The Fork Church, Doswell

Dates TBA

Spring; **Pine Ridge Reservation, S.D**.; St. Timothy's, Herndon

July; **West Virginia, Highland Education Project**; St. Paul's, Alexandria July; **New Orleans**; Christ Church, Alexandria

Youth Group

Late July; **Pass Christian, M.S**.; St. George's, Fredericksburg

Summer; sister parish visit in Pascagoula, M.S.; Christ Church, Richmond

Summer; Long Beach, M.S., Camp Coast Care; St. James', Leesburg

Summer; **Dungannon, Virginia**; St. Timothy's, Herndon

Fall; **Pine Ridge Reservation, S.D.**; St. Timothy's, Herndon

NEWS OF THE DIOCESE

Elk Run Church Strives for Historic Park Status

By Ed Dandar

20

The discovery of Fauquier County's first Anglican Church, built in the 1750s, began in 1998 when a neighbor began clearing brush on the church site at Elk Run, Va. Less than a year later, members of St. Stephen's, Catlett and St. James', Warrenton and county volunteers began to uncover the remains of what they soon discovered was the first brick church in Fauquier County's mid-1700s frontier.

When they took possession of the site in 1999, it was simply a vacant lot with bits of old brick lying about. They had no knowledge or assurance that anything lay below the surface, nor could anyone be certain that the church was actually located there.

Eight years later in October 2006, the all-volunteer archaeological field work was completed. Fiftyfour separate excavations revealed a substantial brick building shaped like a Greek cross. It is regarded as the founding church of Hamilton Parish. Elk Run's first minister was the Rev. James Keith (circa 1742-1751), grandfather of Chief Justice John Marshall.

The Elk Run Church Site

Depart continued from page 17 /

the historic church as a place of worship," said Senior Warden Bill Fetsch. "That building and the grounds mean a whole lot to us." Supported by offers of prayer books, hymnals and prayers from diocesan parishes, the members of Falls Church Episcopal are pitching in to keep their congregation strong. Parishioners have already volunteered for different responsibilities including choir master, pianist, hospitality coordinator and altar guild. Bishop Jones will visit this congregation next month to receive new members and reaffirm existing ones.

At St. Margaret's Episcopal, Woodbridge, about 45 families meets at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings at the former Christ our Lord, Lake Ridge. "Our family may not be in the physical building we called home," said Senior Warden Dr. Alton Tucker, "but we never ceased to exist. We are St. Margaret's Episcopal Church—the Faithful Fabric." Bishop Jones joined the parishioners of St. Preservation Committee has begun work to convert the site to a historic park. Goals for 2007 include outlining the original foundation on the surface with Colonial-style bricks; building a protective shelter over a corner of the



Volunteers work at the site of Elk Run Church's historic foundation

foundation for year-round viewing; placing archaeological and cemetery information interpretative signs for visitors; installing split-rail fencing for cordoning the parking area; placing benches for visitors to rest and meditate; and planting shrubbery. Once completed, the Committee will apply for Virginia Landmark status and then the National Register of Historic Places, pending available funds. +

How You Can Help

The Elk Run Church Site Preservation Committee is renewing its fundraising efforts to achieve its goal of becoming a historic park. Tax deductible contributions can be made payable to Elk Run Church Site Preservation Fund and sent in care of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 8538 Greenwich Road, Catlett, Virginia 20119. More information can be found online at www. elkrunchurch.org, or by contacting Ed Dandar by email at efdandar@us.net or telephone at 703-791-6158.

Margaret's Episcopal on Feb. 25 to celebrate Eucharist. St. Margaret's has already created a new Web site (http://www. stmargaretsepiscopalva.org/) complete with a blog to share the latest parish updates. Dr. Tucker expressed a sentiment felt strongly by all three parishes: "People of the Diocese can continue to support us by letting others know our story, where they can find us and by sending anyone our way who wants to grow with us." And, of course, "prayers are always welcomed." +

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Interview continued from page 16 /

Ravenscroft of North Carolina, and may have taken some delight in opposing the evangelical views of Bishop Meade. Bishop John Johns also struck me as a very interesting figure. I realize many people will disagree with me, but I think he deserves even more credit than Bishop Meade for attempting to evangelize African Americans, both slave and free, in the Diocese. He helped found St. Philip's in Richmond in 1859 and was very critical of the Diocese's efforts among the state's slave population. I also enjoyed the opportunity to meet some of the lay people in the diocese (such as Julia Randle at Virginia Theological Seminary and Patrick Getlein) who were so supportive of the work of putting together the history of the Diocese. +

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NEWS OF THE DIOCESE

Scouting Thrives in the Diocese

By the Rev. Richard Zalesak

The Virginia chapter of the Episcopal Scouters Association (ESA-VA) was established in 2004 by David Anderson of Christ Church, Glen Allen and the Rev. Richard Zalesak of St. Francis, Manakin-Sabot. Mr. Anderson and Mr. Zalesak met through Boy Scout leader training and decided to join their passion for scouting and the Church to create ESA-VA.

The ESA-VA's primary goals are to:

- Help establish and nurture scouting units (including Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Camp Fire) in Episcopal congregations.
- Facilitate the participation of youth and adults in the Episcopal God and Country Religious Emblems Program.

The Episcopal God and Country program is designed so that youth can participate at more advanced levels as they get older. Children

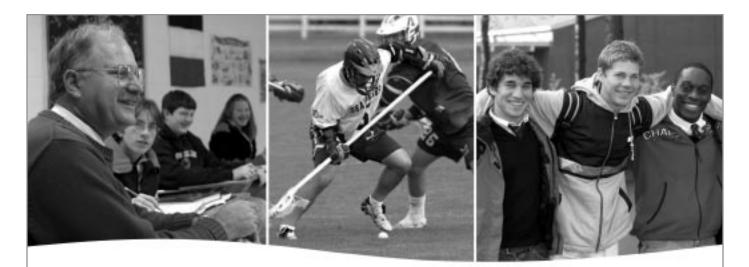
in grades 1-3 work on the God and Me award. Grades 4-5 focus on God and Family. Youth in grades 6-8 concentrate on God and Church, while those in grades 9-12 study God and Life. When scouts complete one of the programs they receive medals as well as Square Knot badges to wear on their uniforms. To date the Virginia chapter has conducted about a dozen classes and retreats for approximately 200 young people.

The ESA-VA has found that an overnight retreat is most convenient (and fun!) for elementary age participants and

their parents. These retreats have usually been held at the Cub Scout Adventure Camp in Goochland



County. Along with the classes, participants have a campfire and marshmallow / *continued on page 23*



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Diocesan Summer Camps 2007 Fun for Young and Old(er)

By Paris Ball

Shrine Mont camps aren't just for kids anymore. Art and Soul Retreat, the annual Family Conference and a new youth trip for young adults are a few of the offerings made available to "grown-ups." As summer approaches, Shrine Mont is gearing up for a busy season for kids and adults alike.

Registration has begun for the 2007 Shrine Mont summer camp season, and forms have already started coming in. All diocesan churches received packets of camp brochures in January at Annual Council, so check with your church to get one. If your church does not have any brochures, call Paris Ball at the diocesan office (800-DIOCESE x18) and we will send you one.

For those who don't know, there are eight wonderful summer camps held at Shrine Mont Conference Center. Do you like to doodle or do crafts? Maybe you enjoy exploring the great outdoors and learning how to cook a meal in the woods? You may want to bring your musical instrument with you to camp – or possibly it's basketball that you can't live without. Whatever your interests, we have a camp that

Classified

Episcopal Singles and Pen Pals – Write suite 13, 1500 Massachusetts Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20005. Membership free.

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Bed and Breakfast – In rural Albemarle County between Charlottesville and Shenandoah National Park; minutes from UVA, Monticello, and Skyline Drive. Affordable rates. Hosts: David and Ginny Wayland, retired Episcopal priest. Wayland Orchard B&B, Crozet, Virginia 434-823-7323.

Hilton Head Oceanfront – Extraordinary townhome on Seapines Goldcoast, sleeps 6-9, four full baths, msnwb@yahoo.com; 804-824-1148.



Shrine Mont campers enjoy a hay ride in Summer 2006.

would be great for you. All of our camps have a slightly different focus, but they are all based around providing campers a safe and fun environment in which to learn about and develop their relationship with God. The lifelong friendships, kooky counselors, pool parties and campfires are just some of the added bonuses that all the camps share.

And don't forget: all the information you need can be found at our camp Web site at www.camps.thediocese.net. See you this summer!

Young Adult Camping Trip

Calling all young adults in the Church: this summer the Diocese is offering a camping trip just for you. Join us June 7-11 as we canoe, camp, and laugh our way through the first annual camp just for young adults. If you are 21 or older, we have a spot for you. Check the camp Web site (www.camps.thediocese.net) for updates and registration forms or e-mail Paris Ball (pball@thediocese. net) for more information. +

Vacation or Short Term – Mountain Chalet just a mile from Shrine Mont for rent. Beautiful inside. Awesome view/Jacuzzi. Great room with fireplace for small group or planning retreats. 703-864-2535.

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Escape to the beautiful Shenandoah Valley! Weekend and full-time homes, lots and condominiums in and around Bryce Resort. Enjoy skiing, golf and fishing, or just relax and watch the seasons change. Great investment opportunities near Shrine Mont. Contact Kemp Miller, Coldwell Banker Four Seasons Realty, 540-856-8492 or kmiller@shentel.net.

Lay Assistant for Christian Education – Grace Church, Kilmarnock. This is a fulltime, salaried position at a growing, large program size parish located in the beautiful Northern Neck of Virginia on the Chesapeake Bay. This ministry will have responsibility for Christian Education programs for the children and youth of Grace, their families, and the wider adult congregation. The position requires an energetic self-starter with good organizational skills and the ability to work will all age groups. Competitive salary and attractive benefits. To apply, please send resume' and cover letter to: The Rev. David H. May, Grace Episcopal Church, P.O. Box

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roast the first evening, with games and a nature hike the next day. The girls and boys especially enjoy staying overnight in cabins designed like 1800s western forts. For the middle and high school programs the ESA-VA has generally conducted multi-week classes at Christ Church, Glen Allen.

Bishop Lee participated in the God and Country program and earned the rank of Eagle Scout in the 1950s. "My path toward becoming an Eagle Scout was a very happy one," he said. "The emphasis on citizenship, the early emphasis in the 1950s on the environment, were very much formative in my life and the recognition of leadership clearly had an impact." +

Spreading Scouting across the Diocese

Scouting and the God and Country programs are well established in the Richmond area, but there is a great desire over the next couple of years to expand them to other parts of the Diocese. ESA-VA leaders would like to speak with any clergy or lay leaders about sponsoring a scouting unit or God and County program. For more information please contact Richard Zalesak at 804-784-6116 or richardzalesak@earthlink.net and David Anderson at 804-339-8472 or david@computerphd.net. Information about the National **Episcopal Scouters Association** can be found at www.nationalepiscopalscouting.com and material about the God and Country program at www.praypub.org.

1059, Kilmarnock, Virginia 22482, 804-435-1285, gracerector@rivnet.net

Director of Preschool - All Saints' Episcopal Church, a resource sized parish of the Diocese of Virginia in the West End of Richmond, is seeking its next preschool director to accomplish a ministry directing the preschool of the parish. This is a part-time (30 hours/wk) position. Organizational and people skills are necessary to coordinate all phases of curriculum management, teacher supervision, budget development and promotion of school in the community. Experience in the teaching field is expected. Childhood education certification is required. Competitive salary and healthcare benefits are included in the compensation package. Interested persons should send resume' and references to Mr. Phil Sword at 8787 River Road, Richmond, Virginia 23229 or e-mail: Phlip_Sword@ccpsnet.net.

2007 Brings New Programs to Roslyn

by Tilghman Broaddus

Two new offerings at Roslyn, one of the Diocese's two conference and retreat centers, seek to help participants engage their baptismal vows through social advocacy and deepen their individual spirituality.

'Food for Thought'

Roslyn's new "Food for Thought" program started on Jan. 9 when over 20 people gathered to hear the Rev. C. Douglas Smith and the Rev. J. Fletcher Lowe of the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy discuss the impact that poverty has in Virginia. Mr. Smith and Mr. Lowe also reviewed legislative issues coming before the Virginia General Assembly that will either help or hurt those struck by poverty.

Throughout 2007, Roslyn will host these quarterly "Food for Thought" dinners, which are followed by guided discussion on matters impacting the way we live today. These events are open to all and are a great opportunity to experience Roslyn's hospitality and community by enjoying an excellent meal and thoughtful conversation with others.

The next segment of the "Food for Thought" series is April 24, 2007. Dialogue will center around the intersection of faith and science.

'First Fridays'

The very first "First Friday" at Roslyn took place on March 2 when

Get The Virginia Episcopalian on the Web. www.thediocese.net diocesan Program Director Carolyn Chilton provided an introduction to the Canterbury Way, an Anglican collegial spirituality for clergy and lay people seeking to strengthen their spiritual and vocational lives.

"First Fridays" are day-long events devoted to reflection and retreat. A spiritual director leads worship, provides group guidance through meditations or instruction and meets privately with individuals. The next "First Friday" at Roslyn will occur April 6. +

Want to Register?

Call Roslyn at 804-288-6045 or 800-477-6296 to register for Food for Thought (\$25) or First Fridays (\$35). Please register at least five days in advance.

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MAY 5, 2007

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Remembering the Mountain Missions *Mary Ware Green Passes Away, Legacy Lives On*

By Bob Mares

Mary Ware Greene, one of the last surviving missionary workers of the Mountain Missions of the Archdeaconry of the Blue Ridge, died Dec. 26, 2006.

The Mountain Missions were a group of over 40 churches, hospitals, sanatoriums, schools and mission homes in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. This network stretched over 50 miles on both sides of the mountain ridge and snaked into what had before been unreachable hollows and family enclaves. Hundreds of people, ordained and lay, were involved in the missionary effort.

The work was started in Albemarle County by the Rev. Frederick W. Neve in 1890. Mr. Neve realized that a large segment of the population was not being served by any church, and with others, started to lay the groundwork for this extensive effort.

In 1937, 17-year-old Mary Ware Stevens arrived with her mother Leticia at St. Paul's, Ingham, located in Steam Hollow in the hills of Page County, to work as a missionary. They had previously served at St. Stephen's, Berrytown, another mission church that no longer exists. Her mother had been a missionary worker and teacher since 1910.

She and her mother would make the 10-mile trip to Steam Hollow (not an easy thing in the 1930s) a minimum of twice a week to check on the community and lead Sunday services and Sunday school. The congregation at St. Paul's was very small in 1937. Mary Ware recalled that only five people



Mary Ware Green's mother, Leticia Stevens (top middle), pictured with her Sunday School class at St. Paul's, Ingham.

would show up for Sunday services in those early years. But she and her mother doggedly traveled up and down the hollow checking on all the families and seeing to their needs.

"You can't help the people unless you know them," she once told me. "And you can't know them unless you visit them where they live."

When asked if she just visited Episcopalian families or all the homes in the hollow, her answer was very succinct. "Why, we visited all the homes. How else could you answer God's call to feed His sheep?" Within a few years of their arrival at St Paul's, Sunday worship was consistently up over 30 people.

After a few years, when her mother also became ill, Mary Ware took on all the responsibility for feeding His sheep in Steam Hollow. Still only in her 20s, she wrote articles about St. Paul's for the mission newsletter and organized clothes drives for the hollow's residents.

As the mission work efforts faded away, she became a school teacher and regularly attended services at St. Paul's. At annual homecomings, services were sometimes delayed so that Mary Ware could get settled and not miss a minute.

Mary Ware Greene was a doer and a fighter her entire life and she had battled and beaten several different types of cancer over the last 30 years. She was always eager to share her many recollections of the church and people of Steam Hollow, and she continued to be an active member of the church right up to her passing. Her funeral was conducted at the little church she loved and it was full of the people she had served so faithfully for so many years.

Today, only a few of the original Mountain Mission churches remain and are still served by the Diocese, ensuring that the legacy left by Mary Ware Green and other mission workers like her lives on. A Mountain Missions team made up of a priest, a vocational deacon and three lay persons has the responsibility of looking after the care and ministry of Good Shepherd of the Hills, Boonesville; McIlhany Parish (Grace, Red Hill and Good Shepherd, Hickory Hill); St. George's, Stanley; and St. Paul's, Shenandoah. +

Bob Mares is a member of the Mountain Missions team and a member of St. Paul's, Shenandoah.



PERIODICAL