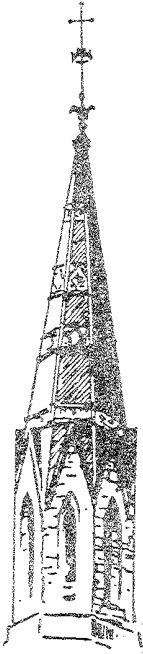


Cross & Crown

News of the Ministry and Mission of R. E. Lee Memorial Church, 123 W. Washington St., Lexington, VA

August 2006



Keeping the Faith in the Interim Time

Thoughts, Views and Opinions from the Interim Rector

“There are certain times in the life of a parish community where normal and regular changes of leadership are likely to intensify and even develop. The roles and functions of leaders may also shift. One such time for congregations is definitely during a time of pastoral transition.”

Temporary Shepherds, *The Reverend Andrew Carlsson*, p. 87.

Developmental Task #3

Identifying and Encouraging New Lay Leadership

After the death of Judas the disciples were perplexed. They quickly came to the conclusion that they must find a replacement since it was important that they continue to be known as “The Twelve.” And so, the first thing they did was to write a job description of the position they wanted to fill. They said, “Judas must now be replaced. The replacement must come from the company of men who stayed together with us from the time Jesus was baptized by John up to the day of his ascension, designated along with us as a witness to his resurrection. And after they identified their candidates, Joseph Barsabbas (nicknamed Justus) and Matthias, they did two very significant things. They prayed that God would make known the one that they should choose to replace Judas who had discarded this ministry when he betrayed his Lord. The next thing they did, which may seem strange to us who live in the 21st century, was to draw straws to see who the winner would be. Or as another Bible translation tells us, they threw dice to choose the winner! Matthias won and took his place with the other eleven apostles...and that is the last we hear of him!

Of course, we may not want to find new leaders in quite the same way today. Instead, we have discovered that the best way to raise up new lay leadership in a parish is through people volunteering for the various tasks that are necessary in a faith community. Their skill sets are matched with the requirements of the position. However, changes in leadership don’t always go smoothly. Roger Nicholson writes, “It is not unusual for a change in pastoral leadership to bring about changes in the lay leadership of a congregation as well. Sometimes extensive structural changes need to be made in the congregation’s way of doing things...Most pastors develop a cadre of supportive lay leaders during their tenure. This is a normal phenomenon in human groups, much like choosing sides to play a game of ball. One of the problems is that this approach can lead to burnout among many (lay) leaders in churches. One interim pastor was told quite bluntly by an active lay leader that when the previous pastor left the church, he lost interest in serving on the church council. He was doing so only because of his friendship and admiration for a previous minister.

“Frequently, a change of pastors provides a chance for new people to step forward into leadership roles. In happier, healthier congregations these shifts of leadership go relatively smoothly as some members retire from responsibility and others are invited to take over. But in conflicted and struggling congregations, such adjustments of leadership may well become power struggles. In these situations skillful management of change is crucial. The time between pastors provides a congregation with the opportunity to honestly and lovingly confront such a picture of itself and hopefully bring about needed changes.” (*Temporary Shepherds*; The Reverend Roger Nicholson, pp. 10, 11.)

Let us all try to be clear on what our real purpose is in being the people of God in this community. When we focus on our weaknesses or problems, we tend to forget what that purpose is. During this transition between settled pastors we have five developmental tasks. If we let ourselves be immobilized when leadership changes occur, with both clergy and lay persons, we may have difficulty working on the other four equally important tasks. When people leave their leadership positions on the Vestry and on other committees, we don’t have to get ourselves in a state of panic. We can, instead, learn to trust God to be in charge of guiding us as we travel through the “wilderness” of the transition journey.

We hope that you all will travel with us as together we continue on our journey! And we also hope that you will step up and let your skills and talents be used in the church and church organizations when someone else has decided it is time for them to step down.

Your faithful servant
in the Lord,

Temporary Change of Office Hours

*The Parish Office will be open
from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
during the first week in August.
Regular hours
will resume August 7.*

Christian Education & Spiritual Formation

Mark your calendar now for the start of Church School, September 10 at 9:15 a.m. on the courtyard.

The position of Church School Superintendent of Youth and Children has been created to ensure that the Church School program continues to run smoothly while we search for a Director of Christian Education. Lisa Bowles and Frances Grist have volunteered to be co-chairs of this newly created position. We thank them for the time and talent they are devoting to ensuring that our Church School program will be ready to launch on September 10.

We have lined up a list of fabulous teachers, and we thank them for their commitment to our children and youth.

<i>Nursery, Birth to 2 1/2 years old</i>	<i>Merce & Erika Brooke, Nursery Core Team</i>
<i>Preschool, 2 1/2 to four years old</i>	<i>Open</i>
<i>Kindergarten/1st Grade</i>	<i>Bridget Kelley-Dearing</i> <i>Anna Dozal</i> <i>Dane Boston</i>
<i>Primary, 2nd to 3rd Grade</i>	<i>John Burleson</i> <i>Myra Brush</i> <i>Bonnie Fay</i>
<i>Intermediate, 4th to 5th Grade</i>	<i>Open</i>
<i>Middle School, 6th-8th Grade</i>	<i>Sharon Massie</i> <i>Punky Dodd</i>
<i>High School, 9th-12th Grade</i>	<i>Mary Webster</i> <i>Jonathan Webster</i> <i>Trey Shehan</i> <i>Lynne Lorrier (on leave)</i>
<i>Children's Word, 2 1/2 Years-3rd grade</i>	<i>Open</i>
<i>Substitute Teacher</i>	<i>Drusie Milford</i>

We still need help in some areas. If you are willing to help, please contact Lisa Bowles at 463-2671 or Frances Grist at 463-6118.

Christianity & Culture Begins with Mozart

Christianity & Culture, which meets on Sunday mornings at 9:15 in the Parish Hall, will begin the fall session on September 10. Coordinated by The Rev. Thomas V. Litzenburg, the offerings and presenters are as follows:

Sept. 10, 17, 24 & Oct. 1

The Sacred Music of Mozart, led by Timothy Gaylard

Oct. 8 & 15

17th Century Religious Poetry, led by Suzanne Keen

Oct. 22 & 29

Religion and the Founding Fathers, led by Holt Merchant

Nov. 5, No program

Nov. 12, 19

Martin Luther, led by Roger Crockett

Nov. 26

No program due to Wreathmaking

Dec. 3

No program due to Annual Meeting

Dec. 10

Martin Luther, led by Roger Crockett

Dec. 17 & 24

No program

Coming January-June 2007: "An Abyss of Madness and Blasphemy: What is and What is Not Christianity," led by Tom Litzenburg.

From Rhonda Wheeler

Dear Friends,

Words cannot adequately express my profound gratitude for your monetary contribution toward my seminary expenses and your spiritual and emotional undergirding of Emily and me as we embark on this exciting journey in Alexandria.

Standing on the church steps Sunday and seeing the faces that have grown so dear to me, my heart was touched and my spirits strengthened by the bond that we will hold forever close.

It has been a rare privilege and a great blessing to have worked the past four years with clergy and staff of this parish. It goes without saying—but it must be said—what a joy it has been to work with Daniel and Kay in our common ministry.

Keep Emily and me in your prayers, as we will you!

God's love to you,



Our new address:
676 N. Ripley St.
Alexandria, VA 23204

A Surprise for Alta

Alta Fowler now resides at the Borden Center at Kendal. When she was still active, she gave unselfishly of herself on behalf of our parish. Her gift of time, energy, and considerable talents was immeasurable.

We want to let Alta know how much we appreciate all that she did. To celebrate her contributions, a quilt-top has been made. It is a friendship quilt, so-called because it has blocks where friends can place their signatures.

You are invited to show your gratitude with your signature. Beginning Aug. 6, the quilt will be available in the Welles Library in the Parish House during the week and also after the 10:30 service on Sundays when we gather for lemonade.

We invite you to participate in this gift of love and appreciation for Alta.

Janice Campbell
Project Coordinator



Parish Update from the Senior Warden

Even as personal schedules lighten during the summer months there is much going on at R. E. Lee Church.

- **Christian Education:** With the departure of Rhonda Wheeler, Frances Grist and Lisa Bowles have stepped in as co-superintendents to oversee the church school and other educational offerings for all ages. After a successful Vacation Bible School program involving 24 children, youth and adults from our parish, a well-attended July meeting for those interested in Christian Education, Adult Christian Education and Church School was held to plan for the 2006-2007 year. It was a time of great enthusiasm. Church school begins on Sept. 10.
- **Youth:** Trey Shehan has accepted the invitation to lead activities for the youth this summer. They began the summer with a trip to Goshen and have plans for more casual get-togethers as well as rafting, rock-climbing, camping and a baseball game. Parents and parishioners are invited to join them on their outings.
- **Parish Life Guild:** In the past year, more than 70 ladies have set tables, brought covered dishes and cleaned up for more than 55 receptions, potluck suppers, diocesan gatherings and clergy transition celebrations. This summer they have overseen the departure receptions for Nick Gorham and Rhonda Wheeler. They are hosting the potluck Newcomer Summer Celebration on Sunday, August 6 at 6 p.m. to which we are all invited.
- **The Rector Search Committee:** This committee is writing the parish profile for our website and setting goals, noting responsibilities, developing a parish description and assembling a set of Rector skills to complete the form for the Clergy Deployment Office. Once that CDO file is posted we will begin to receive an increased number of inquiries for the position.
- **The Administration/Personnel Committee:** Candidate interviews to fill the vacancy left by Nick and Rhonda's departures are being conducted.
- **Website:** Kay Horner and Lloyd Goad are reworking our website to give our homepage a new look, update our information and add pictures to welcome visitors to our site. More pictures and information will be added as fall activities get underway.
- **Christian Outreach**

Sudan Healing—Recently our parish along with the Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church provided a Holistic Trauma Healing Workshop for Sudanese refugees in Roanoke led by Fr. Paul Boyle, a Roman Catholic missionary priest based in Nairobi.

Habitat Build—This summer 16 parishioners are participating in building our fourth house under the leadership of Barton Dick.

Operation Golden Rule—In June a team of 10 members spent a week with college students and others clearing and gutting flooded homes in New Orleans. The personal stories of homeowners and work done was documented by Bob de Maria and will be available on a DVD soon.

- **Steeple:** The Facilities Planning Committee, under the direction of Jerry Nay, continues to work with architect David Oakland to refine the costs and define a construction schedule. More information will be available as soon as these elements are identified.

Transfer In: Donald & Margaret Whittington, 907 Providence Place, Apt. 2, Lexington 24450. Phone: 463-5355.

In Sympathy: We extend our sympathy to Buster Lewis and his family on the death of his mother, Babs Lewis.

New to the Vestry

Based on the results of the Vestry election last December, Susan Cross will serve out the unexpired term of David Partlett, who is relocating to Atlanta. We thank David for his service, and we welcome Susan!

Trustee Nominations Now Being Sought

There are five trustees of R. E. Lee Memorial Episcopal Church. They are elected by the Vestry in consultation with the existing trustees and are appointed by the Circuit Court. The sole duty of trustees in the Episcopal Church is to serve as the stewards of the property. The ultimate decision on acquisition or deacquisition of church property rests with the trustees. At R. E. Lee Church, the trustees also have the duty of appointing three of the seven members of the Gadsden Committee, which oversees the Gadsden Fund. One of the trustees serves on the Gadsden Committee.

At its July meeting, the Vestry voted that trustee terms will be six years with no more than two consecutive terms, for a total of 12 consecutive years in office. A former trustee may be re-elected as a trustee after "sitting out" one six-year term. The trustee terms will be staggered, with a trustee or trustees being elected every two years.

With the deaths of longtime trustees George Brooke and Chuck Harer and the recent resignation of Hal Head, the Vestry is receiving nominations to fill those vacancies to serve with current trustees Louise Moore and Elizabeth Harralson.

Nominations are being accepted in the parish office until August 20.



To the ECW

The ECW has received the following letter from our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. F. Neff Powell:

This is to acknowledge your check in the amount of \$1,301 from the Women of R. E. Lee Memorial Church designated for the relief of the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Your designing and sewing a quilt to raffle off was a wonderfully creative way to raise money for such a worthy cause. We have forwarded your check on to the Office of Episcopal Relief and Development at the National Church. Please convey my personal thanks to the Women of R. E. Lee Church.

Bishop of the Diocese

The Rt. Rev. F. Neff Powell

Interim Rector

The Rev. Barry W. Miller

Director of Music: Daniel Brinson

Parish Administrator: Kay Horner

Treasurer: Buddy Atkins

Financial Secretary: Anita Ramp

Volunteer Coordinator: Lynne Lorrier

Sexton: Connie Bryant

Clergy Associates: The Rev. John A. Furgerson;

The Rev. Dr. Thomas V. Litzenburg; The Rev. Dr.

Jackson P. Hershbell; The Rev. Dr. Robert

Crewdson

Vestry 2006

Buddy Atkins

John Bureson

Melissa Cox

Roger Crockett

Susan Cross

Libby Cumming

Paula Cushman

Bob de Maria

Bob Glidden

Gerry Locher

Cindy Mullen

Jerry Nay

Brian Shaw

Gretchen Walden

Jonathan Webster

A Summer Celebration

to Welcome Our Newcomers



Sunday, August 6
6 p.m., on the Courtyard

Music, Fun, and Fellowship!

Potluck Supper

Serving in August

Readers and Chalcists

August 6

- 8:00 Holt Merchant, Wilson Shepherd, Rob Apgar, Phil Peters, Sharon Peters
10:30 Bob deMaria, Alexandra Brown, Landon Jones, Peter Fyfe, Clara Belle Weatherman

August 13

- 8:00 Russell Knudson, Gerry Locher, Penny Henne- man, Sharon Massie, Mary Doyle
10:30 Holt Merchant, John Campbell, Roger Crockett, Buster Lewis, Marnie Wheeler

August 20

- 8:00 John Milford, Sarah Lanford, Jean Wolfe, Wilson Shepherd, Gerry Locher
10:30 Dan Coffey, Bridget Dearing, Judy Noell, Peter Fyfe, Anna Crockett

August 27

- 8:00 Rob Apgar, Hank Humphreys, Russ Knudson, Punky Dod, Pam Simpson
10:30 Jonathan Webster, Bob deMaria, Pat Gibson, Mary Doyle, Alice Furgerson

September 3

- 8:00 William McCorkle, David Coffey, Sharon Massie, Rob Apgar, Hank Humphreys
10:30 Steve Riethmiller, Brian Dearing, Farris Hotch- kiss, MJ Mayerchak

Acolytes

August 6

- 8:00 Walker Cross
10:30 Anne Douglas Shaw, William Shaw, Forest Shaw

August 13

- 8:00 Will Sheehan
10:30 Anne Tatum Wright, Jacob Lawrence, Mary Lawrence

August 20

- 8:00 Hunter Walden
10:30 Brittigan Coffey, Talmadge Coffey, Daniel Griffin

August 27

- 8:00 Sarah Massie
10:30 Sarah Hart, Walker Cross, Grier Cross

Greeters

- August 6 John & Drusie Milford
August 13 Frank & Cecile West Settle
August 20 Walker & Miss Sydney Cross
August 27 Stan & Ann Kruger

Nursery Core Team at 10:30

- August 6 Steve Lawrence
August 13 Jane Sailer
August 20 Gail Dick
August 27 Caroline Russell

Lemonade Brigade at 10:30

- August 6 Bob & Lynda Bassett deMaria
August 13 Wally & Dot Fogo
August 20 John & Drusie Milford
August 27 Erika & Merce Brooke



On July 23, children and youth of our parish were among those bidding farewell to Rhonda & Emily Wheeler in a festive send-off on the courtyard.

A reminder!

Our thanks to all who serve during worship. A reminder: If you cannot serve on the date assigned, please secure a substitute and notify the Parish Office hornerk@releechurch.org or 463-4981.



For the RARA Pantry

*Canned vegetables
corn, beans & peas.
Leave the groceries
on the main floor
of the Parish House.*

August 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> 12:15 Holy Eucharist	<i>3</i> 5 Rector Search (CR)	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6 The Transfiguration</i> 8 & 10:30 Holy Eucharist 6 Summer Celebration	<i>7</i> 7:30 Christian Outreach (CR)	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> 12:15 Holy Eucharist	<i>10</i> 5 Rector Search (CR)	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13 Pentecost 10</i> 8 & 10:30 Holy Eucharist	<i>14</i> 5 Property (CR)	<i>15</i> 4:30 Finance (CR)	<i>16</i> 12:15 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Stewardship (L)	<i>17</i> 5 Rector Search (CR)	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20 Pentecost 11</i> 8 & 10:30 Holy Eucharist	<i>21</i> 5 pm Vestry (PH)	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> 12:15 Holy Eucharist	<i>24</i> 5 Rector Search (CR)	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27 Pentecost 12</i> 8 & 10:30 Holy Eucharist	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> 12:15 Holy Eucharist	<i>31</i> 5 Rector Search (CR) 7:30 Choir Rehearsal		