



# Cross and Crown

News of the Mission & Ministry of R. E. Lee Memorial Church  
*The Lexington Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia*

FEBRUARY 2011

## *Taize' Eucharist*

February 13 at 5 p.m.

*A contemplative service of scripture,  
prayer, and Holy Communion.*

## *Notes of Thanks*

Thanks to everyone at R.E. Lee Church who has helped to provide transportation or funding for transportation so that our mother, Pat Irving, could continue to attend church services. Because Mom is finding it difficult to get out and about, she has decided to attend the Sunday afternoon Vesper service at **Kendal in lieu of R.E. Lee's morning service.** We have really appreciated your continued support and just wanted you to know that R. E. Lee Church holds a special place in all our hearts.

David Irving, for the Irving family

Dear Rev. Crittenden,  
A belated Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your congregation! I wanted to thank you both for your support during my deployment to Iraq. Your prayers and thoughts for me and my family were much appreciated.  
Respectfully,

Capt. Brian Quisenberry

*The following letter was received in recognition of gifts from our parishioners in honor of the consecration of our former assistant rector, Mark Lattime, as Bishop of Alaska:*

On behalf of the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska, please accept our sincerest thank you for your generous gift of \$1,810. Your gift of support for the ministry of the Diocese of **Alaska will be applied to "The Bishop's Ring,"** as indicated was your desire. We give God thanks and praise for your generosity.

## Annual Meeting

The parish Annual Meeting will be Sunday, February 13, at 9:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Among the items to be presented are the 2011 budget and an update on the every member canvass.

## Vestry Officers

**Our Vestry's new senior warden for 2011 is Mary Doyle.** Melissa Cox will serve as junior warden. Continuing in their positions are Buddy Atkins, treasurer, and Gail Dick, clerk. We thank John Milford and Judy Glick, outgoing senior and junior wardens, for their service, along with the Vestry Class of 2010: Jay Crawford, Elizabeth Harralson, Julia Littlefield, and Dick Rathmell.



Epiphany—Sunday of the Star and the kings!

## NOOMA!

Continuing Sunday mornings  
in February and March!  
9:30, Conference Room



This series of short films uses the experiences of our lives to teach about the fullness of life through Jesus, tackling issues like forgiveness, discipleship, **and unconditional love. The title of the series is an English variation of the Greek word "pneuma,"** which means wind or spirit. At 9:30 in the Conference Room. Facilitated by Sharon Massie.

NOOMA! will also be offered on Thursdays, starting February 3 from Noon to 1 in the Library.

## Christian Education Sundays & Weekdays

9:15 Rise and Sing, Choir Room  
**9:15 Christianity & Culture, "The Heresy of Demonizing Curses," Parish Hall**  
9:30 NOOMA, Conference Room  
9:30 Lectionary Class, Welles Room/Library  
9:30 Confirmation Class for Youth, Red Door Room, Undercroft  
9:30 Sunday School for Children and Youth, 3rd floor Parish House

**Don't Sleep in, Come to Sunday School!**

### ECW Contributions

The Episcopal Church Women (ECW) has made charitable contributions totaling \$11,200 as of January 10. Additional donations will be made as the year progresses.

**Donations went to the Boys' Home in** Covington, Rockbridge Area Free Clinic, Rockbridge Area Hospice, Jackson-Feild Homes (for girls), Rockbridge Literacy & Language Center, RARA, Yellow Brick Road, **Project Horizon's Lisa's House, Hoofbeats** Therapeutic Riding Center, Meals for Shut-Ins, Association for Retarded Citizens of Rockbridge (ARC), the Marc Nikkel School in the Sudan, the R.E. Lee Youth Program (upon request), and the Rector's Discretionary Fund (upon request).

### For the RARA Food Pantry

Canned Tuna & Salmon

*Leave your bags under the table  
outside the Parish Office.*

Thursday Pantry Schedule

Feb. 3—John Harralson, Elizabeth Harralson, Clara Belle Weatherman, Lynwood Dent (Barton Dick, Bill Luton)

Feb. 10—Toni Brown, Paul Goddard, Sarah Burleson, Tom Crittenden (Mo Littlefield, Carol Muir)

Feb. 17—Jane Brooke, Bill Luton, Norman Bowles, Joan Millon (Punky Dod, Linda Sizemore)

Feb. 24—Claudia Ellis, Daniel Brinson, John Dinkel, Nancy Dinkel (Charlotte Murphy, Carol Muir)

### Did You Know?

~ that there is a clean paper recycling bin on each floor of the Parish Hall? The one on the ground floor is the **colorful scenic one that says "paper"** on it. On the office floor level, it is in the Resource Room beside the copier. On the third floor, it is as you pass through the door on the stair landing to your right.

~ that we are using reusables now for the coffee service during Sunday School, the Lemonade Brigade hospitality time after the 10:30 service, and for Canterbury Club. The only exception is paper napkins and plastic cups for drinks for Canterbury Club.

~ that our Cross and Crown is now mostly by email saving the church paper use and postage. It is your decision whether or not you print it out at home. Our bulletins have been printed on recycled paper for several years.

These efforts are among the many small steps R.E. Lee Memorial Church is **taking to become "greener" and reduce** our carbon footprint. What are YOU doing at home to be a better steward of **God's creation?**

*From the Green Committee*

Deadline Information  
Bulletins, Tuesday afternoon  
Cross & Crown, 15th of the month  
preceding publication.



### Youth Events

Wed., Feb. 2, 6 to 7 p.m.  
**High School Night Out at Frank's Pizza**

Sundays, Feb. 6, 13, 20, & 27,  
5-6:30 p.m.  
Youth Group  
Youth Leaders  
Mayumi Smitka  
mayumi\_smitka@yahoo.com  
Megan Oliver  
megan.oliver.2740@gmail.com

### Wonderful Wednesdays

3:15 snack  
3:30 to 4:30 session

Godly Play  
(age 3 to 1st grade)

St. Francis Choir  
(1st grade through 8th grade)

*Save the Date!*

**Women's Retreat**  
March 11-13, The Bellfry

*Mark your calendars*

Shrove Tuesday  
Pancake Supper and Talent Show  
March 8, 6 to 7:30 p.m.



# Stewardship Vignettes

*...or How Sacrificial Giving Has Kept Our Church Alive*

The Barrett-Fletcher Years

—Another in a Series—

by Doug Cumming

Planted in the shadow of two colleges, R.E. Lee Church cannot escape its ties to these cerebral and sojourning communities. Students and faculty at Washington and Lee University and Virginia Military Institute historically have been both the church's mainstay and mission. In the late 1950s and early '60s, good stewardship toward these very old, very self-confident campuses was the passion of two of our most scholarly rectors, the Rev. Thomas van Braam Barrett and the Rev. John Caldwell Fletcher.

Barrett, the son of an Episcopal minister and a graduate of Amherst College and General Theological Seminary in New York, came to R.E. Lee in 1951 with a heart for college mission. He had been a teacher before going to seminary, the chaplain at Kenyon College and secretary of the college division for the national church. Barrett was also a jovial Renaissance man. He published books, wrote musical plays for Lexington audiences and acted in them, played jazz saxophone and piano, painted (he did the large landscape in the Welles Room), and delivered sermons so imaginative that parishioners often asked for copies. After a few years under Barrett, the church had separate VMI and W&L vestries, was ministering to some 450 cadets and students, and was holding discussions and suppers every Sunday night for the combined Canterbury Clubs. Partly to accommodate the college ministries, Barrett and the new bishop that he had helped select for the diocese successfully called for the construction of the three-story parish house (completed in 1959 for \$175,000) and the hiring of a full-time college chaplain. After the Rev. Ralph Smith took that position in 1956 with a salary from the parish, the diocese and the national church, R.E. Lee Church could point to 530 Episcopal students in the area, more than any other denomination, and was sending some of these off to seminary with a little financial help.

Fletcher, also the son of an Episcopal minister and a graduate of Sewanee and Virginia Theological Seminary, arrived as rector in May 1960, 10 months after Barrett's resignation. At 28, tall, skinny and intensely reflective, Fletcher had come from a Fulbright fellowship in Heidelberg, Germany, where he had translated a book by his hero, the theologian-martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Fletcher took seriously the intellectual content of Christianity, revamping the Sunday School curriculum with a "Christian Education for Everyone" program. He took over the college ministry, when the Rev. Smith left for a Tennessee parish, and after several months of this, called for the hiring of a chaplain equal to himself in duties and salary. The next chaplain, the Rev. William J. Schneider (a Yale graduate who stayed for two years, between stints at Oxford and Harvard), initiated a Canterbury canvass that, in 1961, raised \$3,589 in student pledges and \$1,216 from parents. Fletcher related to individuals with care and warmth, no matter who they were, but challenged the power of

institutional realities. A committee he appointed to study the then-controversial issue of racial integration submitted a minority report that criticized Fletcher for "usurping" the committee's role with his exhortations for social change. He was apparently too liberal for some, recommending a "Christian Social Relations Committee" that the Vestry rejected in favor of establishing a "Church Properties Committee."

Fletcher's story, after he left Lexington in 1964, is full of Christian searching and struggle, as can be traced in articles in the Washington Post. He became an iconoclastic professor at Virginia Theological Seminary and a pioneering bioethicist at the National Institutes of Health and the University of Virginia. Bioethics and clergy vocation, to him, were existential matters, to be learned and practiced in the hot abrasions of life. His father, John Capers Fletcher, deaf from age 4, had ministered to the deaf throughout the South. His sister, Louise Fletcher, is an actress who played Big Nurse in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest." Deeply religious yet intellectually skeptical, and subject to depression, Fletcher had renounced his ordination in the 1990s and, in 2004, at 72, killed himself by drowning, according to a coroner's report.

In a period of radical rumblings, Barrett and Fletcher inspired many college students in Lexington. Perhaps the most important of these students in church history was Jonathan Daniels, a VMI cadet who sang in the R.E. Lee choir and served on its VMI vestry his Rat year, 1957-58. It is hard to say how much Barrett and Fletcher influenced Daniels, but these two rectors seem to be kindred spirits with this precocious, physically delicate young man from New Hampshire who was valedictorian in 1961 and later enrolled in the Episcopal Theological School in Cambridge, Mass. Like Fletcher, Daniels wrestled with existential angels, taking seriously the writings of 17th century divines and modern French philosophers. The predicament of modern man, honestly faced, was absurd, he wrote (and nothing struck him as more absurd than his VMI experience). But the freedom to act, to serve justice, remained. In 1965, abandoning his Cambridge studies for Selma, Ala., to help with the black voter registration campaign that was already winding down, Daniels found himself in jail in Lowndes County with several other civil rights workers. When they were released, Aug. 20, a local highway worker confronted four of them with a 12-gauge shotgun. Daniels, in his seminarian collar, pushed a young black female safely out of the way and, in the next second, was blasted in the chest by the shotgun, dying instantly. Today, Daniels' martyrdom is recognized in the Episcopal Church's Calendar of Lesser Feasts and Fasts, and with Martin Luther King Jr., he is memorialized in Canterbury Cathedral as one of two American martyrs.

# SERVING IN FEBRUARY

## READERS AND CHALICISTS

Feb. 6

8:00 Hank Humphreys, Suzanne Keen, John Milford, Rob Apgar, Sharon Massie  
10:30 George Brooke, James Keane, Jonathan Webster, Peter Fyfe, Gloria Smitka

Feb. 13

8:00 Sarah Lanford, William McCorkle, Lu Dooley, Gerry Locher, David Jacobs  
10:30 Dennis Cross, Anna Crockett, Farris Hotchkiss, Elizabeth Harralson, Pat Gibson

Feb. 20

8:00 Holt Merchant, Rob Apgar, Penny Henneman, Hank Humphreys, Sharon Massie  
10:30 Roger Crockett, Judy Glick, Melissa Cox, Peter Fyfe, Shay Peters

Feb. 27

8:00 Suzanne Keen, Sarah Lanford, Lu Dooley, Gerry Locher, Pamela Simpson  
10:30 Dan Coffey, David Jacobs, Doug Ayer, Gloria Smitka, Pam Traugott

## ACOLYTES

Feb. 6

8:00 David Jacobs  
10:30 Jacob, Maggie & Mary Lawrence

Feb. 13

8:00 Forrest Walden  
10:30 Talmadge Coffey, Tomas McBrayer, John Smitka

Feb. 20

8:00 Ben Connelly  
10:30 Walker Cross, Thomas Bartenstein, Sydney Cross

Feb. 27

8:00 Noah Sailer  
10:30 Condé Crittenden, Emma Burleson, Katherine Bowles

## USHERS & OBLATION BEARERS AT 10:30

Feb. 6 Anna Crockett, Roger Crockett, Ed Craun, Don Ellis  
Feb. 13 Joan Millon, Jamie Smith, Drusie Milford, John Milford  
Feb. 20 Grigg Mullen, Lynda deMaria, Steve Grist, Frances Grist  
Feb. 27 Tom Vinson, Wally Fogo, Jonathan Webster, Farris Hotchkiss

## GREETERS AT 10:30

Feb. 6 Melissa Cox & Linda Sizemore  
Feb. 13 Martha Ackerly & Punky Dod  
Feb. 20 Bonnie Gates & Paula Cushman  
Feb. 27 Judy & Farris Hotchkiss

## ALTAR GUILD

Feb. 6 Sharon Humphreys, Elizabeth Harralson, Nancy Walker, Diana Kenney, Julie Grover

Feb. 13 Rose Gordon, Suzanne Carmichael, Joan Crawford, Chris Howison, Tracey Mason, Molly Brown, Myra Brush

Feb. 20 Laura Stearns, MJ Mayerchak, Martha Ackerly, Pat Gibson, Paula Hunter, Alice Moore, Peggy Riethmiller, Mary Webster

Feb. 27 Jane Brooke, Gretchen Walden, Judy Glick, Elise Sprunt, Catherine Harcus, Drusie Milford, Virginia Dabney

## PLATE COUNT TEAM HEADS

Feb. 6 Mo Littlefield  
Feb. 13 Jeff Grossman  
Feb. 20 Elizabeth Oliver  
Feb. 27 Woody Sadler

## LEMONADE BRIGADE

Feb. 6 Bob & Lynda deMaria  
Feb. 13 The Rodi Family  
Feb. 20 The Merce Brooke Family  
Feb. 27 John & Drusie Milford

## Spotlight on Mission



**Boys' Home is a special ministry** founded in 1906 by the Rev. G. Floyd Rogers, the priest at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Covington. Boys' Home is affiliated with both the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia and the Diocese of Southern Virginia.

Known as Grace Mission in the **early years, the home's name was** appropriate. For it is through grace that God works effective change in hearts and lives. Grace gives us new life, transforming our thinking and saving us. **This defines the mission at Boys' Home.**

Young men from all over Virginia **and surrounding states come to Boys' Home.** The home is 96 percent privately supported, and does not turn any boy **away based on the family's inability to pay.** Since Boys' Home provides extensive scholarships, private support is critical.

**From its humble beginnings, Boys' Home** has continued to focus on mental, physical, social and spiritual development. At the heart of its mission, the goals have remained constant: to help boys nurture their minds, bodies **and souls ... to develop character ... to** educate, motivate and guide.

This important Episcopal outreach has made a *pivotal* difference in the lives of thousands of young men, ages 6-18. Numerous young men have grown into responsible, productive citizens after receiving this guidance. Thank you for continuing to pray for and support the **mission of Boys' Home.**

—Janet Lemmer  
*Development Director, Boys' Home*

# February 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6 EFM	2 3:15 Wonderful Wed. 5 Worship (WR) 7 Book Club (WR)	3 10 Kendal Bible Study Noon, Nooma 7:30 Parish Choir	4	5
6 Epiphany 5  8, 10:30, 5 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Christian Ed 5 Youth Group 6 Canterbury Supper	7 6 Property (CR)	8 4:30 Finance (CR) 6 EFM (WR)	9 3:15 Wonderful Wed. 7 Book Club (WR)	10 10 Kendal Bible Study Noon, Nooma 7:30 Parish Choir	11	12
13 Epiphany 6 8, 10:30 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Parish Annual Meeting <b>9:15 Chr'n Ed (Children)</b> 5 Youth Group 5 Taizé Eucharist 6 Canterbury Supper	14 7 Christian Outreach (WR)	15 6 EFM (WR)	16 3:15 Wonderful Wed. 7 Book Club (WR)	17 10 Kendal Bible Study Noon, Nooma 7:30 Parish Choir	18 6 Sweetheart Date Night	19
20 Epiphany 7  8, 10:30, 5 Holy Eucharist 8:45 Breakfast 9:15 Christian Ed 5 Youth Group 6 Canterbury Supper	21 <i>Parish Office Closed</i> 5 Vestry (PH)	22 6 EFM (WR)	23 3:15 Wonderful Wed. 7 Book Club (WR)	24 10 Kendal Bible Study Noon, Nooma 7:30 Parish Choir	25	26
27 Epiphany 8  8, 10:30, 5 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Christian Ed 5 Youth Group 6 Canterbury Supper	28					

WR—Welles Room (Library)  
CR—Conference Room

*Bishop of the Diocese*  
The Rt. Rev. F. Neff Powell

*Rector*  
The Rev. Tom Crittenden

*Chaplain*  
The Rev. Dr. Bob Crewdson

*Director of Music:* Daniel Brinson

*Program Director:* Sharon Massie

*Parish Administrator:* Kay Horner

*Treasurer:* Buddy Atkins

*Financial Secretary:* Anita Ramp

*Publications Assistant:* Susan Compton

*Sexton:* Connie Bryant

*Clergy Associates:* The Rev. John A. Furgerson

The Rev. Dr. Thomas V. Litzenburg, Jr.

The Rev. Dr. Jackson P. Hershbell

3 Sally Sessoms  
Mayumi Smitka

5 Nat Massie

11 Mike Quayle  
Jenny Shultis

12 George Brooke  
Bob Glick

13 Betty Bentley  
Betsy Houston

14 Paula Cooper  
Anne Tatum Wright

15 Jack Apgar  
Marshall Walden

19 Sarah Shultis

## BIRTHDAYS

20 Harrison Crittenden

21 Julia Hentz  
Steve Riethmiller  
Doug Roper

22 Gerald Bury  
Nancy Dinkel

23 Linda Page  
Beverly Tucker

24 Holt Merchant

26 Susan Cain

27 Dane Boston  
Joseph Henson  
Russell Knudson

Vestry 2011

Alexandra Brown

Suzanne Carmichael

Melissa Cox

Doug Cumming

Punky Dod

Mary Doyle

Don Ellis

Timothy Gaylard

Judy Glick

Sarah Lanford

Howard Pickett

Steve Riethmiller

Gloria Smitka

Mary Webster

Don Whittington

Gail Dick, Clerk to the Vestry



The fourth **Sunday breakfast, prepared by the men's cooking crew**, rose to new heights last month with more than 60 folks **in attendance. Our thanks to the team of "mostly men" that makes possible this intergenerational time together.** The next breakfast will be February 27—see you there!