



# Cross & Crown

News of the Ministry & Mission of R. E. Lee Memorial Church, 123 W. Washington St., Lexington, VA January 2008



Our rector will begin Confirmation Class in February in preparation for the Bishop's Visitation in the spring.

If you desire to be confirmed this year, please call the Parish Office or e-mail [hornerk@releechurch.org](mailto:hornerk@releechurch.org) to sign up for the class.

If you have questions about confirmation, Mr. Crittenden welcomes the opportunity to talk with you before you commit to the class.

## *New Vestry Members*

Five parishioners were elected to three-year terms on the Vestry at the Annual Parish Meeting last month. They are: Jay Crawford, Elizabeth Harralson, Julia Littlefield, John Milford, and Dick Rathmell. Their terms begin this month.

We appreciate the contribution to the life of our parish made by all eight candidates who agreed to stand for election.

## *Parish Office Hours*

The Parish Office is open from 9 to 4, Monday through Thursday, and from 9 to noon on Friday to assist parishioners. When you have requests for the office, please contact Kay Horner, Parish Administrator, at [hornerk@releechurch.org](mailto:hornerk@releechurch.org) or 463-4981, Monday through Thursday. A parish volunteer will be in the office Friday morning.

## *Augusta Convocation*

The August Convocation of our diocese will meet here on Sunday, Jan. 13, at 2:30. Delegates to Council are urged to attend. The meeting is open to all parishioners.

## *From the Rector...*

### **The Feast of the Epiphany**

January 6 is the Feast of the Epiphany and a Principle Feast of the Church. (BCP, p.15) Epiphany concludes the Nativity cycle in the Church calendar with the celebration of the arrival of the Wise Men bringing gifts to Jesus. "Epiphany" is from Greek and means "manifestation" or "revealing." The manifestation of Jesus the Christ to the non-Jewish Magi is the first revealing of Jesus as the Savior of not just the Jews but of the whole world. (Matthew 2:1-12)

The Feast of the Epiphany is Eastern in origins (3rd c.) and predates by a century the general celebration of Christmas (4th c.). In its original observance, Epiphany celebrated the Baptism of Jesus – Scripture's first public manifestation of Jesus as the Christ: "*This is my beloved son, with whom I am well pleased!*" (Matthew 3:17)

Over time, Epiphany took on the birth of Jesus as a secondary theme. In the West, the Christmas celebration of the birth of Jesus became the primary feast of the Incarnation, and the focus of Epiphany was changed from Jesus' baptism to the arrival of the Wise Men. Much later, the Baptism of Jesus returned to the Western Church calendar, observed now on the Sunday after Epiphany.

The dates of Christmas and Epiphany are tied to the winter solstice – December 25 being the solstice in the 4th c. Roman calendar and January 6 the 3rd c. Easter calendar solstice. Scripture does not give any time of year, much less a date, for the Nativity or the visit of the Magi. The Church seems to have chosen the winter solstice to compete with and ultimately supplant the popular pagan festival, *Natalis Solis Invicti* (the Birth of the Unconquerable Sun) with the Christian celebration of the birth of the "Sun of Righteousness."

Epiphany falls on a Sunday this year, and we will have a glorious celebration of this Principle Feast of our Lord. ( And I've just received word that the Wise Men are on their way!)

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*Contact information for The Rev. Tom Crittenden*

4 Grey Dove Road, Birdfield, Lexington

Telephone: 463-5035

E-mail: [CrittendenT@releechurch.org](mailto:CrittendenT@releechurch.org)

## Year-End Report from the Gadsden Endowment

The Mission and Outreach Committee of the Gadsden Endowment is charged to fund activities which spread the Christian Gospel and alleviate human suffering. The committee has seven members: one Trustee of the church, one Vestry member, two members appointed by the Trustees, and three members appointed by the Vestry. The committee invites grant proposals, meets quarterly to consider them, and grants funds in the following categories: 10 percent of the annual income from the Endowment for Diocesan projects or programs specifically underfunded; 20 percent for seminarians and continuing education of Diocesan clergy or ministers of our parish; 50 percent for local needs and concerns; 20 percent for Third World needs, especially in Sudan.

During 2007, we have made the following grants:

- \$8,800 to R.A.T.S. toward purchase of a used sedan or van.
- \$3,000 scholarship to School of Theology of the University of the South for Diocesan seminarian.
- \$6,000 to Jonglei Development Society for storage shed to store school supplies, construction equipment, and food for Marc Nikkel School (Bol Deng).
- \$2,697 to purchase reconditioned motorcycle to provide transportation to supervise projects for International Widow's Association for South Sudanese Refugees.
- \$8,000 to Rockbridge Area Free Clinic to help establish 4-chair dental suite.
- \$8,000 to Rockbridge Area Hospice for renovations to new permanent quarters.
- \$700 to the Rockbridge Regional Library for volunteer training material and educational games for the Youth Literacy Program.
- \$15,000 to match funds raised for R.E. Lee Memorial Episcopal Church's capital campaign.
- \$6,000 to Yellow Brick Road to help with relocation expenses.
- \$3,000 scholarship to School of Theology of the University of the South for Diocesan seminarian.
- \$5,000 to Diocese of Southwestern Virginia to help fund a peace-building conference in Sudan among church leaders of the Anglican churches in north and south Sudan.

In 2007, the committee membership has been : Jean Wolfe, Roger Crockett, and Elizabeth Harralson, Tri-chairs; Lu Dooley, Secretary; Lloyd Goad, Treasurer; Robert Glidden and Dennis Cross, Members-at-Large. Jean Wolfe and Elizabeth Harralson are now rotating off the committee, having served two three-year terms. Myra Brush has been appointed by the Vestry to replace Jean Wolfe, and Louise Moore has been appointed by the Trustees to replace Elizabeth Harralson.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Harralson

### Youth @ Council

Youth are invited to the table—ONE Table of Grace—to do their part to help ease world hunger. An exciting project is planned for youth as part of Annual Diocesan Council in Roanoke, Jan. 25-27. For more information, or to register, log on to [www.dioswvayouth.wordpress.com](http://www.dioswvayouth.wordpress.com).

### IN THE PARISH REGISTER

*Baptism:* John Mercer Brooke, son of Merce & Erika Brooke.

*Transfer In:* Jackie Hutchings, 901 Providence Place, 463-9270

*Transfer Out:* Jason & Carson Wilkie; William Watt, Jr.; Jeremy Crenshaw; Eric Hadley

### Bazaar Total In!

The grand total for the 2007 ECW Bazaar comes to: \$8,976! On Tuesday, Jan. 8 at 10 a.m. in the Conference Room, the Episcopal Church Women will meet to adopt the budget that determines the donations they will make to missions in our community, Virginia, and the Sudan. If you are a woman and attend R.E. Lee Church, you are a part of this organization. Come join us in our ministry.

### Christianity and Culture

*Sundays at 9:15 in the Parish Hall*

January-June 2008

*"Good & Evil in the Garden of Eden:  
Sexuality, Moral Freedom,  
and Human Nature."*

Led by Tom Litzenburg



### Remember the RARA Food Pantry

#### Pork & Beans and Beans

Leave your items on the main floor of the Parish House under the hall table.

### Betty's Still Collecting for Boys' Home!

*Collection box in the hall,  
main floor of the Parish House.*

Since 1996, R. E. Lee parishioners have been saving Campbell labels and UPC symbols for Boys' Home in Covington.

As of last year, the parish coordinator of this project, Betty Bentley, had collected, organized, and forwarded more than 50,000 labels which the home has traded for useful products such as a 15-seat van and equipment, science and athletic programs at the school. Thank you, parishioners! Thank you, Betty!

Please keep saving those Campbell labels and place them in the marked basket in the Resource Room of the Parish House.

Besides the soup labels, you'll also find the Campbell sign near the UPC symbol of the following products: Pepperidge Farm breads, crackers and cookies; Vlassic pickles; and Franco-American canned goods.

Remember the boys when you put the soup on and thank you!

# Serving in January

## Readers and Chalicists

### January 6

- 8:00 Lu Dooley, Pam Simpson, Penny Henneman,  
Sharon Massie, Wilson Shepherd  
10:30 Alexandra Brown, Doug Cumming,  
Bob deMaria, Peter Fyfe, Alice Furgerson

### January 13

- 8:00 Sarah Lanford, Hank Humphreys, Sharon  
Massie, Rob Apgar, Punky Dod  
10:30 Bob deMaria, Pat Gibson, Elizabeth Harralson,  
Eileen Hinks, Buster Lewis

### January 20

- 8:00 John Milford, William McCorkle, Lu Dooley,  
Sharon Peters, Pam Simpson  
10:30 Sarah Engstrom, Judy Glick, Farris Hotchkiss,  
MJ Mayerchak, Renae Patrick

### January 27

- 8:00 Wilson Shepherd, Sharon Massie, Rob Apgar,  
Hank Humphreys, Gerry Locher  
10:30 Ellen Ivy, James Keane, Landon Jones, Gloria  
Smitka, Clara Belle Weatherman

## Acolytes

### January 6

- 8:00 Grier Cross  
10:30 Brittigan Coffey, Talmadge Coffey, Kris Hoolahan

### January 13

- 8:00 Walker Cross  
10:30 Joe Crittenden, Zach Dearing, Liam Dearing

### January 20

- 8:00 Will Shehan  
10:30 Anne Tatum Wright, Madison Wright, Matt Hinks

### January 27

- 8:00 Marshall Walden  
10:30 William Shaw, Forest Shaw, Thomas Bartenstein

## Lemonade Brigade

- January 6 Mike & Charlotte Murphy  
January 13 The Hentz Family  
January 20 Barton & Gail Dick  
January 27 To be announced

## Greeters at 10:30

- January 6 Frank & Cecile West Settle  
January 13 Pam Traugott & Clara Belle Weatherman  
January 20 Mike & Suzanne Carmichael  
January 27 Charlotte Moore & Carol Muir

## Bol Deng Is Coming!

Our Sudanese friend, The Rev. Bol Deng, will visit Lexington on Jan. 27, 28, and 29 after Annual Diocesan Council in Roanoke. There will be a potluck supper after the 5 p.m. service on Jan. 27 and other events with parishioners during his visit.

Parishioners interested in helping to plan this visit should contact MJ Mayerchak at 463-9457.

We look forward to Bol's visit and to hearing an update from his ministry in Sudan and with the Marc Nikkel School.



At 10:30 on Sunday, Jan. 7, we will celebrate Epiphany with festival Holy Eucharist. A brass quintet will offer musical selections.

## *Parishioners Answer the Call!*

Thank you for a job well done!

Last summer, a number of parishioners volunteered to help a handicapped neighbor who wanted to live again in her own home after a severe stroke. She had some help in the morning, but she was waiting to receive additional assistance through Medicaid for the rest of the day and evening. For over two months, parishioners took turns providing an evening meal, clean up and companionship. They bridged the gap beautifully!

At mid-December, our friend seems to be doing quite well. She likes very much her Medicaid assistants who come throughout the day and evening. She still relies on an emergency system if she falls in the night. Her little dog remains a wonderful companion and helpful greeter for guests. As those of you who have been to her home would expect, she has master-minded beautiful decorations for Christmas, inside and out. A warm, lively household indeed!

## *There will be no Kids Night Out in January. It will resume on Feb. 1!*

*To reserve a place for your child, for February, please contact Susan Lawrence at [lawrences@rockbridge.net](mailto:lawrences@rockbridge.net). There is no charge for having your child in KNO, but donation of a non-perishable food item for the RARA Food Pantry is encouraged..*

**To Those Who Serve:** Our thanks to all who serve during worship. If you find you cannot serve on the date assigned, please secure a substitute and notify Kay in the Parish Office, 463-4981 or [hornerk@releechurch.org](mailto:hornerk@releechurch.org).

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*Bishop of the Diocese*

The Rt. Rev. F. Neff Powell

*Rector*

The Rev. F. Thomas Crittenden

*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 2008**

Buddy Atkins

George Brooke III

Molly Brown

John Burleson

Jay Crawford

Roger Crockett

Susan Cross

Bob Glidden

Elizabeth Harralson

Bridget Kelley-Dearing

Julia Littlefield

John Milford

Dick Rathmell

Woody Sadler

Gretchen Walden

- 1 Joan Millon
- 4 Dick Rathmell  
Dick Weede
- 5 Elizabeth Branner  
George Roth
- 6 Conde' Crittenden  
Elsie Clare Oas  
Helen Watt
- 7 Juliet Hinely
- 8 Debbie Arnn  
Larry Boetsch  
Rob Fabrizio  
Kitty Farrar
- 10 Doug Hamm  
Janet Lemmer  
Mead Stolarz
- 11 John Furgerson  
Signe Lewis  
Marnie Wheeler
- 12 Carol Muir

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- 14 Bonnie Gates
- 15 Libby Chiles  
Farris Hotchkiss  
Jenn Sayre
- 18 Lee Sayre
- 19 Elizabeth Boetsch  
John Campbell
- 21 Robert Bouck  
Charlotte Moore
- 22 Tim Litzenburg
- 26 Mike Murphy
- 27 Kathryn Pharr
- 29 Jane Brooke

