



Cross & Crown

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

From the Rector...

The Holiest of Weeks

As the 40 days of Lent wind down and the Cross of Christ looms large atop Calvary, upcoming Holy Week events are worth special note:

Palm Sunday begins Holy Week on March 16 with a celebration of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem with the crowd hailing him as Messiah! The downtown Lexington churches gather at Hopkins Green at 9 a.m. for a joint Palm Sunday procession past each church. At the 10:30 service we will have our own procession from in front of the Parish House into the church. The Palm Sunday liturgy climaxes with a dramatic reading of the Passion Gospel.

On **Maundy Thursday**, March 20, we celebrate the first Lord's Supper with Foot Washing and Holy Communion. The strange intimacy of washing feet connects us directly to the charged atmosphere of Jesus' last hours with his disciples. The Lord's Supper is instituted for us in the bread and the wine as we follow Jesus' command, "Do this in remembrance of me." The service ends with the very moving Stripping of the Altar as Jesus leaves the Last Supper to face agony and betrayal in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Good Friday, March 21, is the high point of Holy Week for many Christians. At the hour of the Crucifixion, a powerful remembrance of the Crucifixion is offered in the Good Friday Liturgy. St. John's Passion Gospel, the penitential Solemn Collects, and the Veneration of the Cross lead us through the darkness of Good Friday. The service closes with the consumption of the Reserved Sacrament: the tabernacle is emptied, Jesus is gone, and we say to our hearts, "It is finished!"

On **Holy Saturday** morning, March 22 in the Holy Saturday Liturgy we gather quietly "at the tomb" to contemplate the emptiness experienced by Jesus' disciples the day after the Crucifixion—their Lord and friend cruelly abused and executed, the Light of the World extinguished.

But hope beckons at the **Easter Vigil** on Saturday evening! The Light of Christ is rekindled, and the Paschal Candle is triumphantly processed into the church. Our hearts are lifted by the retelling of God's work of salvation throughout Scripture culminating with the joyous proclamation of the Resurrection and the first Eucharist of Easter. Our Easter celebration then continues with a festal lamb dinner in the Parish Hall.

Sound exciting and meaningful? IT IS! Mark your calendars and plan to participate fully in these events that promise to make your Holy Week and Easter a memorable experience of God's infinite love for us in his risen Son, Jesus Christ.

BISHOP'S VISITATION: On Sunday, March 30, our Bishop, The Rt. Rev. F. Neff Powell, will be with us at 8 and for Confirmation at 10:30. Everyone is invited to join Bishop Powell for coffee and an informal session at 9:15 in the Parish Hall.

Palm Sunday

8:00 Holy Eucharist

9:00 Community Procession
from Hopkins Green and
Continental Breakfast
For the whole family!

10:30 Holy Eucharist

Holy Week

Wednesday

12:15 & 5:30 Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday

7 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Good Friday

12:30 Holy Eucharist

Holy Saturday Liturgy

Saturday at 8 a.m. in the church

The Great Vigil of Easter

Saturday at 7 p.m. followed by
Festival Lamb Dinner

Easter Sunday

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9:30 Easter Egg Hunt,

Easter Breakfast,
and Flowering of the Cross

For the whole family!

10:30 a.m. Festival Holy Eucharist

The Lectionary-based class and Christianity and Culture will not meet on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday. Participants are invited to join in our 5 intergenerational events on those Sundays.

The Parish Office will be closed the week after Easter, March 24-28.

"Honoring Our Past, Sharing in Our Future"

A Campaign Update ~ and an NPR-like Appeal

In early February we completed our first year of the three-year capital campaign. To date, \$559,052 in pledges and gifts has been received, along with an additional \$20,095 in non-pledged support. We are \$71,853 away from our goal of \$650,000.

The generosity of those who have given has been inspiring. Any who have already given and are able and inclined to make additional gifts can be assured your gifts will be welcomed. Some have given sacrificially, stretching their resources to the limit to make their personal commitments.

For those who have not yet participated in the campaign:

The campaign has gotten this far through the efforts of many people. But we still have a way to go. We are fans of National Public Radio (NPR), and, like you, always find the intermittent week-long appeals somewhat annoying. But we also realize the necessity for ongoing appeals. Without wide-spread support, R. E. Lee, like NPR, can't provide you with the "programming" you indicated you wanted in the parish survey undertaken before the campaign. Unlike NPR, which doesn't really know who turns the dial to its programs, we know who our "audience" is. We see each other at church. We have brought ourselves and our children for baptism, Sunday school classes, Confirmation, weddings, comfort when distressed, and we have brought our loved ones for memorial services and burial.

Your Vestry has boldly stepped forward to replace our steeple, renovate our kitchen (a project which seemed a top priority on our wish list, but still has not met its funding goal), repair our elevator, and fully fund the Music Endowment. The Vestry is proceeding with plans to air-condition the Parish House and make other needed improvements. The planning for the Columbarium is well along. And staffing is being increased to support programs of our Parish. A Program Director has joined the staff, and plans call for addition in the fall of an ordained staff member to work with college students. Yellow Brick Road is in its new quarters, thanks in large measure to the support of R. E. Lee through the campaign. The main focus of our programs has been the youth and college members of our parish. Completion of the campaign will make it possible to realize the mission of R. E. Lee Church.

Three-year pledge commitments can be made extending through February 2011, the conclusion of the campaign. We all should have a part in this. Gifts of all sizes have been received.

You may obtain another pledge card from the Parish Office or just write a note to our Parish Financial Secretary, Anita Ramp, stating your intentions. Appropriate envelopes for weekly, monthly, or quarterly gifts will be available as you choose.

R. E. Lee has been and will remain there to support you—no matter what. Now is the time for *all* of us to support the mission and ministry of R. E. Lee Church.

Sincerely, in Faith

Barton Dick
Chairman

John Knapp
Honorary Chairman

Gail Dick Joins the Parish Staff

We welcome Gail Dick this month as our Parish Office Assistant and Clerk to the Vestry.

Gail is no stranger to the office, having served several years ago as secretary and coordinator of our volunteers.

In addition to her work for the Vestry, Gail will be in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays to assist the staff and Parish Administrator.

We are delighted to have Gail back and look forward to this new dimension of her service to our parish.

Dear R. E. Lee Church Family,

We will be forever grateful for the prayers and support of our church when our son died. We called on every ministry of the church: Rector, Vestry, Music, Administrator, and Altar and Flower Guilds, Christian Nurture, ECW, Ushers, and last but far from least, the Sexton—and we may have missed a few.

During a month that seemed to go on forever, you might have felt that your entire mission was to minister to the Dabneys. You sheltered the grieving, comforted the afflicted, fed the hungry, supported the weak, mourned with the hurting, and helped us bury our dead. Through it all, you made us feel that we were helping you. That was the greatest therapy of all.

We are so proud and thankful that the ties with the Episcopal Church are so strong: from R. E. Lee in Lexington and St. John's in Lynchburg to Christchurch in Middlesex and Virginia Seminary in Alexandria, to Christchurch, Greenwich, Connecticut, we are all part of one body, one communion living proof of the importance of that "one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth..." When we felt most anguished, you gave us reason for prayers of Thanksgiving.

Bill and Virginia

The Sounds of Easter

Blue Ridge Brass

The sounds of brass add festivity to any Easter service. This year one highlight is an Easter anthem, incorporating the Parish Choir, St. Francis Choir, Handbell Choir, Brass, and Congregation. It is a setting of *Lord of the Dance*, a hymn written by Sydney Carter in 1963 and set to the famous Shaker dance tune, *Simple Gifts*. The song relates the Gospel story, but is written in the first-person (from Jesus' perspective). The refrain is a wonderful celebration of Easter, "Dance then, wherever you may be..."!

Drums

The St. Francis Choir is learning an anthem that incorporates drumming for Easter! We hope you'll enjoy this festive sound and if you'd like to learn to "drum" for future services, please contact Daniel. The young at heart are welcome, too!

The Rockbridge Chamber Singers, directed by William McCorkle, will present selected works of Bach and Handel at 7 p.m., Sunday, March 2, at Lexington Presbyterian Church. Advance tickets are available at the Hallmark store.

Safeguarding God's Children

R. E. Lee Church will host a *Safeguarding God's Children* training session on Saturday, March 8 from 10 to Noon in the Parish Hall. Lunch will be provided after the training session. In accordance with the Episcopal Church's Healthy and Wholesome Youth Ministries Policy, the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia requires all who work or volunteer with children and youth to take the *Safeguarding God's Children* sexual abuse awareness training. The Rev. Kim Webster, rector at St. John's, Waynesboro will conduct the training. Although required for those who work with children, it is also open to all. If you have questions, contact Sharon Massie at 570-5408 or sharon@releechurch.org

Thank You, Frances!

A very special thank you to out-going Sunday School Superintendent Frances Grist. We are grateful for her faithfulness to our children and youth during the past 18-month interim period.

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper & Talent show raised more than \$100 for the Marc Nikkel School.

Talent included six-hand piano stylings of a Joplin Rag, a Muffins, The Bubble Freak, Tongue Twisters, beautiful song stylings of Caroline Webster, Katherine Bowles and Margaret Branner and the Amazing Harrisons...that's right Two Harrisons!...Unfortunately his "painful stunts" act was cancelled by a worried momma.



Lenten Quiet Morning

Windows into the Soul

Saturday, March 15

9:00 a.m. to Noon

Begin your Holy Week Journey with a quiet morning of worship, reflection, prayer and art.

The morning will conclude with a light lunch at Noon.

Reminders from Sharon!

Save the date!
Vacation Bible School
at R. E. Lee Church
June 23-27.

- Sunday School for Children and Youth now meets at 9:30 a.m. An Adult Lectio-nary based Sunday School class meets at 9:30 in the Library. Christianity and Culture continues to meet at 9:15.
- Volunteers are needed for Children's Church during the 10:30 service. As a volunteer, you would need only to accompany and stay with the children during the brief children's service and then accompany the children back to the worship service. Please contact me (sharon@releechurch.org) if you would be willing to assist with this meaningful aspect of our children's ministry.

Christianity and Culture Sundays at 9:15 in the Parish Hall

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

Led by Tom Litzenburg

*The class will not meet on
Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday or Confirmation Sunday*

Serving in March

Readers and Chalicists

March 2

- 8:00 John Milford, Sarah Lanford, Holt Merchant,
Punky Dod, Sharon Peters
10:30 Mary Webster, Steve Riethmiller,
Roger Crockett, George Brooke, Mary Doyle

March 9

- 8:00 William McCorkle, Lu Dooley, Sharon Massie,
Pam Simpson, Rob Apgar
10:30 Anna Crockett, Dan Coffey, Alice Furgerson,
Melissa Cox, Eileen Hinks

March 16, Palm Sunday

- 8:00 Sarah Lanford, John Milford, Holt Merchant,
Gerry Locher, Sharon Peters
10:30 Anna Crockett, Judy Glick, Ellen Ivy,
Peter Fyfe, Pat Gibson

March 20, Maundy Thursday

- 7:00 Judy Glick, Sharon Massie, (No Prayers),
Melissa Cox, Alice Furgerson

March 21, Good Friday

- 12:30 William McCorkle, Holt Merchant
(No Prayers), Renae Patrick, Punky Dod

March 22, Easter Vigil

- 7 Chalicists: George Brooke & Renae Patrick

March 23, Easter

- 8:00 John Milford, Sarah Lanford, Pam Simpson,
Punky Dod, Hank Humphreys
10:30 Alex Brown, Bob deMaria, Buster Lewis,
Pat Gibson, Elizabeth Harralson

March 30

- 8:00 Lu Dooley, John Milford, Holt Merchant,
Rob Apgar, Sharon Peters
10:30 James Keane, Mary Webster, Landon Jones,
Mary Doyle, Gloria Smitka

Greeters at 10:30

- March 2 Dot & Wally Fogo
March 9 Michael, Maggie, & Mary Lawrence
March 16 Punky Dod & Martha Ackerly
March 23 Ann & Jerry Nay
March 30 Chris and David Howison

Easter Flowers

Help make our Easter celebration beautiful with lilies and spring flowers. You may give flowers or make a contribution to the Flower Fund. To list memorials in the Easter bulletin, contact Kay in the Parish Office no later than Monday, March 17.



Acolytes

March 2

- 8:00 Walker Cross
10:30 William Shaw, Forest Shaw, Thomas Bartenstein

March 9

- 8:00 Marshall Walden
10:30 Jacob Lawrence, Mary Lawrence, Walker Cross,
Michael Lawrence (as observer)

March 16, Palm Sunday

- 8:00 Grier Cross
10:30 William Shaw, Forest Shaw, Kris Hoolahan

March 23

- 8:00 Will Shehan
10:30 Joe Crittenden, Brittigan Coffey, Talmadge Coffey

March 30

- 8:00 Walker Cross
10:30 Zach Dearing, Anne Tatum Wright, Madison Wright

Lemonade Brigade

- March 2 The Sailer Family
March 9 Ann & Stan Kruger
March 16 Sharon Peters
March 23 The Lawrences
March 30 Melissa Cox



Kids' Night Out!
Friday, March 7
6 to 9 p.m.

To reserve a spot for your child,
Contact Susan Lawrence at

Lawrences@rockbridge.net. There is not charge, but you're
asked to bring a donation for the RARA Food Pantry.

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.

Bishop of the Diocese

The Rt. Rev. F. Neff Powell

Rector

The Rev. F. Thomas Crittenden

Director of Music: Daniel Brinson

Program Director: Sharon Massie

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, Jr.

The Rev. Dr. Jackson P. Hershbell

The Rev. Dr. Robert Crewdson

Vestry 2008

Buddy Atkins

George Brooke III,

Molly Brown

John Burlison

Jay Crawford

Roger Crockett

Susan Cross

Bob Glidden

Elizabeth Harralson

Bridget Kelley-Dearing

Julia Littlefield

John Milford

Dick Rathmell

Woody Sadler

Gretchen Walden

- 1 Julia Kozak
- 2 Nate Adams
- 4 Elizabeth Pharr
- 6 Anna Fure
- 7 Woody Sadler
- 8 James Brown
Carole Elmore
Jonathan Webster
- 9 Louise Moore
- 10 Marti Gansz
- 11 Fred Hadsel
- 13 Gary Casteel
Lynne Lorrier
- 15 John Milford
- 16 Sharon Peters
- 17 Ed Craun
Bill Sayre
- 18 Ethyl Fry
Ann Lyne
Bill Stockwell

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- 19 Wade Branner
Don Whittington
- 24 John Jennings
- 25 Sharon Massie
- 28 Clarke Horner
- 29 Frances Higgins
Sissy Prillaman



March Cross and Crown

Cross and Crown is the monthly newsletter of R. E. Lee Memorial Episcopal Church in Lexington, VA. The editor is Kay Horner. The deadline for C&C is the 15th of the month. Articles and items of interest may be e-mailed to hornerk@releechurch.org or dropped in the C&C box in the resource room in the Parish House. Please include contact information.