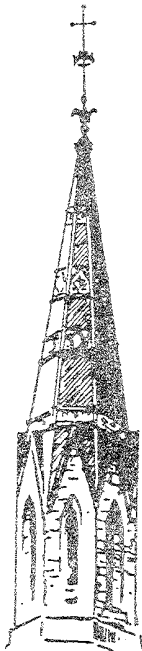


Cross & Crown

News of the Ministry and Mission of R. E. Lee Memorial Church, 123 W. Washington St., Lexington, VA September 2006



Marc Nikkel Feast Day to be Celebrated Here

On Sunday, Sept. 3, our parish, along with other churches in the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia, will celebrate the Feast Day of Marc Nikkel (1950-2000). Our celebrant at 8 o'clock will be The Rev. Thomas V. Litzenburg. The Rev. Connie Wolfe Jackson will celebrate at 10:30.

Marc Nikkel served the Episcopal Church in the Province of Sudan as a joint appoint-

ment of the Church Missionary Society of England, the Episcopal Church, USA, and our diocese.

He is remembered as an evangelist who was instrumental in the exponential growth of the Christian faith during the 1980s and as a peacemaker who helped bring together more than 2,000 feuding tribal leaders in southern Sudan.

In the words of the Rev. Patrick Augustine, Marc "was a one-man seminary who trained hundreds of Sudanese pastors and evangelists." Our dear friend, the Rev. Bartholomayo Bol Deng, was one of his students.

Kick-Off Sunday: Sept. 10

Look inside for details!

Christian Education Registration and Fellowship at 9:15.
On the courtyard.

The Adopt-a-Cadet Picnic after the 10:30 service.

The 5 p.m. Canterbury service resumes, with a parishwide potluck dinner following.

Holiday Closing

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, September 4 for Labor Day.

A Letter to the People of R. E. Lee Church

At its regular meeting on Monday, August 21, the Vestry voted to end its relationship with our interim rector, the Reverend Barry Miller. This action was taken after hours of prayerful discussion and with the full knowledge and counsel of our bishop, the Right Reverend Neff Powell, and the Reverend Gene Anderson, the diocesan deployment officer.

Because the search for our settled rector is well underway, the Vestry has decided to use supply clergy until the settled rector is called and arrives. We will seek to use a regular "rotation" of supply clergy to assure some continuity in the worship services. It is also anticipated that Bishop Powell and our former bishop, the Right Reverend Heath Light, will be with us from time to time until the settled rector arrives.

We will meet the pastoral needs of the church through the clergy resources in our parish and through some use of supply clergy. Please contact Kay Horner in the parish office (463-4981; hornerk@releechurch.org) if you have the need for pastoral care.

During this transition period, lay leadership will continue to organize the same number of Christian Education and Sunday School offerings as it has in the past. The youth programs, both middle school and high school, will be organized by Trey Shehan, with support and supervision provided by parents and other lay leaders. We ask that you consider volunteering your own time and talents during this period.

The Vestry asks for your continued prayers in this time of search and discernment. The Vestry also asks for your continued prayers for the Reverend Barry Miller. We wish him well in his future ministry.

Sincerely,

Melissa M. Cox
Melissa M. Cox
Senior Warden

Brian D. Shaw
Brian D. Shaw
Junior Warden

Brinson to Give Recital at Lexington Presbyterian

During September, Lexington Presbyterian Church will hold a "Farewell Celebration" of the Taylor and Boody organ. The series will open this Friday, Sept. 8, with "Music at Noon," a half-hour organ recital by our Director of Music, Daniel Brinson.

The program will include works by the Baroque composers Buxtehude, Frescobaldi, and Krebs, and the 20th-century composers Ginastera and Locklair.

We invite you to join the celebration.

September 10—Church School Kick-Off



Smile—God Loves You!

2006-7 Sunday School Kick-Off
Registration on the Courtyard at 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School to follow
Join us for refreshments and
a time of getting to know each other!

Nursery, Birth to 2 1/2 years old
Preschool, 2 1/2 to four years old
Kindergarten/1st Grade

Merce & Erika Brooke, Nursery Core Team
Caroline Russell
Bridget Kelley-Dearing, Anna Dozal
Dane Boston

Primary, 2nd to 3rd Grade
Intermediate, 4th to 5th Grade
Middle School, 6th-8th Grade
High School, 9th-12th Grade

John Burleson, Myra Brush, Bonnie Fay
Marlys Craun & Catherine Harcus
Sharon Massie & Punky Dodd
Mary & Jonathan Webster, Trey Shehan
Lynne Lorrier (on leave)

Children's Church Coordinator
Children's & Youth Church Volunteer
Children's Chapel, 2 1/2 Years-3rd grade
Substitute Teacher

Mary Wall
Jill Stockwell & Laura Lanier
Dan & Macy Coffey
Drusie Milford

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. 12, 19, and Dec. 10

Martin Luther, led by Roger Crockett

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

From the Co-Directors

Dear Sisters & Brothers:

Before our former DCE Rhonda Wheeler left for seminary, she asked if we would act as Sunday School superintendents to ensure that the Sunday School program for our children and youth continued while we were in transition. After prayerful consideration, we both decided we could do it *with your help!*

We have wonderful volunteers who have already signed up (see article to the left), but we still have vacancies. Please prayerfully consider the positions listed in our "help wanted" ad below!

In Christ,
Frances Grist
Lisa Bowles

Pre-School Assistant
(twice/month)

Youth Church Coordinator
(no Sunday commitment, just organization skills to prepare for volunteers)

Children's Church Helpers
(once/month on Sunday for 30 minutes;
no prep required)

Youth Church helpers
(once/month on Sunday for 30 minutes)
during service, no advance prep required.)

A Fresh Look for the Nursery

A tip of the paint brush to the crew that helped paint the nursery: Barton and Gail Dick; Mary, Steve, Jacob, and Maggie Lawrence; and Erika and Merce Brooke.

Second Quarter 2006 Gadsden Report

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, three members appointed by the Vestry.

The committee invites grant proposals, meets quarterly to consider them, and grants funds in the following categories: 10% of the annual income from the Endowment for Diocesan projects or programs specifically underfunded; 20% for seminarians and continuing education of Diocesan clergy or ministers of our parish; 50% for local needs and concerns; 20% for Third World Needs, especially in Sudan.

At our second quarterly meeting on June 28, we made four grants:

- \$1,000 to the Rockbridge Regional Library for the Literacy Program.
- \$6,000 to two seminaries; scholarship aid for two seminarians
- \$5,600 to Grace House for startup costs for a website.

The Committee membership is currently: Jean Wolfe, Elizabeth Harralson, and Roger Crockett, Tri-chairs; Beth Hart, Secretary; Lloyd Goad, Treasurer; Robert Glidden and Louise Dooley, Members-at-large.

Elizabeth Harralson



Baby Grand Arrives this Month!

A baby grand piano will arrive at our church in late September, a loan from Miss D and Paul Penick. To accommodate the piano, the Vestry approved the temporary removal of two pews in the front of the church. We are grateful to the Penicks for the generous offering of this instrument.

We are also appreciative of a gift by John and Kathryn Mirabella this summer of a piano for the Parish Hall.

Plans are under way for special music using both of these instruments.

Hymn-Sing and Piano Dedication

On Thursday, Sept. 14, at 7:30 there will be a hymn-sing to dedicate the piano in the Parish Hall. Ice-cream sundaes will follow!

Fall Rehearsals Begin

The Handbell Choir, Parish Choir, and St. Francis Choir are ready to tune up!

Parish Choir, Thursdays, 7:30

St. Francis Choir, 2nd grade & up,
Wednesdays beginning Sept. 13,
4:15-5:30

*Handbell Choir (all ages),
Wednesdays, beginning Sept. 20
6:30-7:30*

The focus of all three groups is spiritual nourishment and community. All groups are looking for new members. No audition or previous experience is required. Child-care can be arranged, if needed. Questions? Call Daniel at the Parish Office, 463-4981.

Book Study Planning Session

Are you interested in reading and sharing your reflection with others? A group of parishioners is gathering on Wednesday, Sept. 13, to choose a book and discuss a format of study. We will begin the evening with a potluck supper at 5:30 in the Parish Hall. Bring a dish, a book you'd suggest reading, and yourself!

In Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to Helen Watt and her family on the death of William J. Watt, and to Grigg Mullen and his family on the death of his mother, Eloise "Sis" Mullen.

Transfer Out: Martha Dudley, to St. John's Church, Glasgow..

Stewardship Within Our Community



R. E. Lee Memorial Church has a long history of sharing within our community. Just as our faith community shares the body and blood of Christ at communion, we demonstrate the same sharing within the local community and the world community. Community and communion come from the same Latin root, *communis*, meaning shared by all or many. By sharing collectively as a parish family and community of faith, R. E. Lee Memorial Episcopal Church has a greater impact than what each of us can do individually. Some of the many ways we share within our local community are:

Yellow Brick Road – Over the past 28 years, R. E. Lee has housed and supported Yellow Brick Road childcare. Through our Outreach we have contributed tens of thousands of dollars in financial support. This year we have set aside \$14,000 or approximately 32 percent of our Outreach budget for support of Yellow Brick Road.

RARA – Members of R. E. Lee helped to organize and manage RARA for more than 25 years. Our support has made the difference for Rockbridge families having food to eat and heat in the winter. We continue to share our food and financial support through RARA.

Habitat for Humanity – R. E. Lee has worked together with the local Habitat organization and other churches to help deserving families become homeowners. We have generously contributed money and labor to turn the dream of home ownership into a reality for many deserving families in the Rockbridge area.

Other Outreach Programs show our caring by visiting people who are homebound and welcoming new residents to the community. Our campus ministry to W&L and VMI and our youth programs are also important areas of outreach. We also share within the world community through:

Sudan – The Gadsden Fund gives financial support to Bishop Andudu and the people of the Nuba Mountains in the Kadugli region. Most recently our support of Rev. Bartholomew Bol Deng is giving hope for the future in this war-torn country. Through the efforts of R. E. Lee and the diocese, the Marc Nikkel School will be lit at night to enable evening classes. A new high school will be built with living quarters for students. Our efforts are making a huge difference for the people in the Bor region of Sudan.

These are but a few ways that our stewardship at R. E. Lee helps our local community and the world. Just think how things might be without our support. In reflection of your own stewardship, please prayerfully consider what more you can do to share the gifts that God has entrusted to us.

Faithfully,
The Stewardship Committee

Canterbury Fellowship Begins A New Year!

The new academic year is poised to begin and with it the resumption of the 5 p.m. Sunday service.

The first 5 p.m. Holy Eucharist will be celebrated on Sept. 10.

Some parishioners find this service to be a meaningful way to end a weekend or to connect with students and cadets.

It is also a wonderful opportunity to welcome new students to our parish family, to share in our campus ministry, and to praise God with a different kind of song.

Each Sunday following that service, the congregation is invited to continue fellowship by sharing a meal cooked by parishioners in the Parish Hall. Students and cadets enjoy getting to know families and they very much appreciate a home-cooked meal. If this is a ministry in which you would like to share, please contact Gloria Smitka at gsmikta@dslcc.edu or at 463-3702.

*Melissa Cox
Higher Education Ministries Chair*

Serving in September

Readers and Chalicists

September 3

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

September 10

- 8:00 Pam Simpson, Gerry Locher, Russell Knudson,
Sharon Massie, Wilson Shepherd
10:30 Alexandra Brown, Dan Coffey, Doug Ayer,
Chip Brooke, Melissa Cox

September 17

- 8:00 Sarah Lanford, John Milford, Holt Merchant,
Pam Simpson, Sharon Peters
10:30 Landon Jones, Ellen Ivy, Mary Webster,
Clara Belle Weatherman, Mary Doyle

September 24

- 8:00 Hank Humphreys, William McCorkle, Rob Apgar,
Punky Dod, Pam Simpson
10:30 Dane Boston, Anna Crockett, Bob deMaria,
Buster Lewis, Alice Furgerson

October 1

- 8:00 David Coffey, Russell Knudson, Penny
Henneman, Gerry Locher, Wilson Shepherd
10:30 Doug Cumming, Bill Noell, Judy Noell, Peter
Fyfe, Alice Furgerson

Acolytes

September 3

- 8:00 Jacob Lawrence
10:30 Andrew Pharr, Anne Tatum Wright,
Kris Hoolahan

September 10

- 8:00 Will Shehan
10:30 Hunter Walden, Marshall Walden, Forrest Walden

September 17

- 8:00 Sarah Massie
10:30 Grier Cross, William Shaw, Forest Shaw

September 24

- 8:00 Walker Cross
10:30 Brittigan Coffey, Talmadge Coffey, Thomas
Bartenstein

Greeters

- September 3 Carol Muir & Barbara Yewell
September 10 Kathryn & John Mirabella
September 17 Bonnie Gates & Paula Cushman
September 24 Suzanne and Mike Carmichael

Nursery Core Team at 10:30

- September 3 Susan Lawrence
September 10 Beth Hart
September 17 Jane Sailer
September 24 Sarah Massie

Lemonade Brigade at 10:30

- September 3 The Cross Family
September 10 Barton & Gail Dick
September 17 Bridget Kelly Dearing
September 24 Don & Claudia Ellis

Got TLC to Spare?

Our core nursery team recently lost several members. We need more helpers so we don't burden our current team. The more helpers we have, the fewer times team members will be called upon.

Please contact Erika Brooke (epbrooke@yahoo.com or 463-7599) if you are willing to be added to our team of nursery helpers during the 10:30 service. Thanks so much!



KNO Returns in October

Kids' Night Out, our monthly time when we entertain the kids while parents have a night out, will resume in Friday, Oct. 6.

*For more information,
or to register your child, contact Susan Lawrence,
464-5797 or
lawrences@rockbridge.net.*

ECW Luncheon September 5

The ECW will gather for a brown bag lunch on Tuesday, Sept. 5, at 11:30 in the Parish Hall. All the women of the church are invited. For more information, contact Alice Furgerson at 464-1244.

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 tuna & salmon.
Leave the groceries
on the main floor
of the Parish House.*

Bishop of the Diocese

The Rt. Rev. F. Neff Powell

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 Burleson

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

Got Wheels? Share a Ride!

The Christian Nurture Committee recently met to develop plans for the coming year. The mission of the committee is to assist parishioners who, because of surgery, injury, or declining health, need short- or long-term support.



One area of ministry involves transportation to Sunday services and occasionally to other church activities. Members of the committee are currently offering this support, but the need is expanding.

As you reflect on ways that you might give your time and talent to our parish, please consider whether driving a parishioner to and from church on an occasional basis would be a service you might contribute.

For further information, contact Anna Crockett (463-3972) or Rene' Glidden (348-6360), co-chairs of the committee.

September 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 5 Newmarket Service for VMI Cadets (Church)
3 <i>Pentecost 13</i> 8 & 10:30 Holy Eucharist	4 <i>Parish Office Closed</i>	5 11:30 ECW luncheon 4:30 Music Comm (L)	6 12:15 Holy Eucharist	7 5 Rector Search (CR) 7:30 Parish Choir	8	9
10 <i>Pentecost 14</i> 8 & 10:30 Holy Eucharist 9:00 SS Kick-Off! 5 Holy Eucharist 6 Canterbury Supper	11 5 Property Comm (CR)	12 4:30 Worship Comm (L)	13 12:15 Holy Eucharist 4:15 St. Francis Choir 7:30 Stewardship (CR)	14 5 Rector Search (CR) 7:30 Hymn Sing & Ice Cream Sundaes	15 Deadline for October <i>Cross & Crown</i>	16
17 <i>Pentecost 15</i> 8 & 10:30 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Sunday School 5 Holy Eucharist 6 Canterbury Supper	18 5 Vestry (PH)	19 6 EFM (L)	20 12:15 Holy Eucharist 4:15 St. Francis Choir 6:30 Handbells	21 5 Rector Search (CR) 7:30 Parish Choir	22	23
24 <i>Pentecost 16</i> 8 & 10:30 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Sunday School 5 Holy Eucharist 6 Canterbury Supper	25	26 6 EFM (L)	27 12:15 Holy Eucharist 4:15 St. Francis Choir 4:30 Gadsden (CR) 6:30 Handbells	28 5 Rector Search (CR) 7:30 Parish Choir	29	30