

**From the Rector**

Dear Friends:

John and I want to give a huge thanks to all St. Georgians for your love and support surrounding our blessing Service on June 12. What a great day it was for us, the parish, the diocese and the Church! It was such a joy to have our parish family together with our family and friends from across the country!

Many of you gave extra time and energy to help us make the event happen. In particular we wish to thank Deb Moore for making the rehearsal dinner happen, Deb Nebel for fabulous flowers, Martha Horn and other members of the Vestry (past and present) for their help, Sam DePriest and his able-bodied security team, and our parish musicians and acolytes who served. It was truly a team effort!

St. George's has been an integral part of our relationship from the very beginning

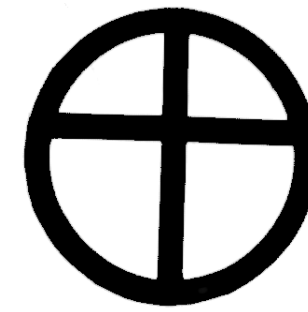
(John first attended here just a week after we first met in 1992). You have supported and nurtured us through good times and hard times, and we will always be grateful.

We did great church together on June 12. We were blessed, but God was glorified. And God shaped a circle ever wider and a people ever free. Thanks be to God and thanks be to you!

Michael+



**The Wider Circle**  
**St. George's Episcopal Church**  
**P.O. Box 188**  
**Glenn Dale, MD 20769**  
**Address correction requested**



# The Wider Circle

**St. George's Episcopal Church**  
**Glenn Dale Parish, Maryland**

*"Shape a circle ever wider and a people ever free."*

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**Eight Renew Baptismal Vows**

Eight St. Georgians renewed their baptismal vows when Bishop John Chane visited St. George's on Sunday, June 27. Confirmed were Deb Boda, Rick Boda, Patrick Hardy, and Steven Scott. Received were Serena Wyckoff, Joan Marionni, and Regina Lanning. Reaffirming her baptismal vows was Anne Package. These eight had prepared for the bishop's prayer and laying on of hands with the Rector over eight weeks of studying the Gospel of Luke, the Baptismal Covenant, and some of the most important aspects of our Anglican tradition. As part of their preparation, the class produced their own joint creed:

*We believe in God the Creator,  
 Whose complete love embraces all people.*

*We believe in Jesus Christ,  
 Our Savior and constant Companion,  
 Who teaches us by his example  
 To love God and all our neighbors  
 unconditionally.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 Giver and motivator of life,  
 Who binds us in love within a community of  
 hope.*

**Vestry Elects New Treasurer**

At its June meeting, St. George's Vestry elected Alix Volel-Stech as Treasurer to replace Jeanette Davis, whose family is moving to St. Mary's County. Alix previously served as Treasurer in the early 1990's and has since been Treasurer and then President of the Board of Collington Episcopal Lifecare Community. She now also serves on the Board of Episcopal Senior Ministries. Linda Sanches was elected Assistant Treasurer.

The Vestry expressed its great appreciation for Jeanette Davis' service over the past year and a half.

**New EFM Class Forming**

A new Education for Ministry [EFM] class will be starting after Labor Day. Enrollments for the next term are being received through Sunday, 15 August.

EFM is a course for lay people offered by an Episcopal seminary in Sewanee, Tennessee. It is designed to equip lay people minister more effectively in the church and the world.

First-year participants study the Old Testament. Second-year participants study the New Testament. Third-year participants study church history. Fourth-year participants study theology.

EFM follows the principles of adult education. So, there are neither lectures nor tests. Rather, participants spend 2-4 hours a week in individual study, then share their insights and questions with other participants during class.

A typical class starts with a prayer. During the first hour, participants from each

year meet in small groups to discuss the textbook readings. In the second hour, the entire class meets for a common lesson—during which participants share their faith stories, engage in theological reflections, explore spiritual disciplines, and discern their personal ministries. The evening ends with a brief worship service (such as Compline) led by one of the participants.

The class usually takes two field trips each year to learn first-hand about other faith traditions. Last year participants visited a local Hindu temple and Franciscan monastery.

The class is planning to meet on Tuesdays from 7:30 to 10:00 PM; however, this may change to accommodate the schedules of new participants. The tuition is \$340. Credit cards and checks are accepted. If you are interested in participating but need scholarship assistance, please speak to Father Michael.

An information session about EFM will be held on Sunday, 1 August, in Miller Hall, at 9:00 a.m. A 15-minute video will be shown, followed by a questions and answers.

For more information, stop by the EFM table in the narthex, visit [www.stgeo.org/EFM/](http://www.stgeo.org/EFM/), or contact the mentors:

- John Bradley [301-345-8628; [johnclint@comcast.net](mailto:johnclint@comcast.net)]
- Terry Doyle [301-386-9297; [TerDoyle@aol.com](mailto:TerDoyle@aol.com)]



### Area Youth Ministry Celebrates Pentecost

*by Erin Iverson, Area Youth Minister*

Youth from the four congregations of our Area Youth Ministry (St. Andrew's, St. Christopher's, St. George's, and Holy Trinity) gathered together in late May to celebrate the coming of Pentecost and the closing of our first school year together. Forty youth and adults joined in the fun at a lock-in hosted at Holy Trinity. Friday evening was full of games, skits like the old game show "Whose Line is it Anyway," and fellowship—which didn't end until well into Saturday morning. We also welcomed the coming of Pentecost with Eucharist at midnight in the cemetery at Holy Trinity, celebrated by Father

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St. George's Episcopal Church  
Glenn Dale Parish  
P.O. Box 188  
7010 Glenn Dale Road  
Glenn Dale, Maryland 20769  
301-262-3285 (voice/TTY)  
302-262-0666 (fax)  
301-474-4495 (rectory)  
[office@stgeo.org](mailto:office@stgeo.org) (e-mail)  
[www.stgeo.org](http://www.stgeo.org) (Web site)

The Rt. Rev. John Bryson Chane,  
Bishop of Washington

The Rt. Rev. Barbara Harris,  
Assisting Bishop

The Rev. Michael W. Hopkins,  
Rector

John Clinton Bradley, Editor  
[johnclint@comcast.net](mailto:johnclint@comcast.net)

#### Glenn Dale Parish Vestry:

- Michael Hopkins, Rector
- Martha Horn, Senior Warden
- Susan Geiger, Junior Warden
- Rick Boda
- Jeanette Greaney
- Rowland Hoke
- Kim Newman
- Steven Pigott
- Audrey Proffitt-Henry
- Alix Volel-Stech, Treasurer
- Linda Sanches, Assistant Treasurer
- Debbie Nebel, Clerk
- Karen Horrocks, Convention Delegate
- Jeffrey Williams, Alternate Convention Delegate

#### Mission Statement

The mission of St. George's is to build a Christian community of love and support that actively seeks and includes all people.

We commit ourselves to spiritual growth through worship and education that empowers us to follow Christ's example in the world.

Michael Hopkins of St George's. Our worship included elements of fire and wind, and our youth enacted for all in attendance the coming of the Holy Spirit. It was a sight to behold! Participants danced around the flames of the Holy Spirit to a chorus of "This Little Light of Mine". Father Michael commissioned us all to take the Holy Spirit into the world, to live out our ministry with God in everything we do, and gave each of us a glow stick—our very own piece of the Holy Spirit! The celebration was a great night for all involved, and truly showed that the Spirit of God is present in the lives of our young people. Thanks to all who helped and supported this event.

### CAMP JOY is Upon Us

*by Erin Iverson, Area Youth Minister*

Our mission trip is finally here! Our Area Youth Ministry is taking a group of 60 youth and adults to CAMP JOY in West Virginia, from July 25 to July 31. CAMP JOY (Christian Appalachian Mission Project—Joining Other Youth) is a program that provides home repairs and improvements for those in West Virginia who are on a fixed income and cannot do this work themselves. The work is all done by youth volunteers (with some help from the adults!).

The participants work hard and have fun while they are helping people who need our help. More importantly, they explore areas where God is present in their lives, the lives of the homeowners, and in the work that they undertake over this week. New friendships are made and valuable life lessons are learned.

Those of us who will attend ask two things of our congregations:

- Keep us in your thoughts and prayers—ask God to keep us safe, and send us mild weather and no rain. Ask God to give us the strength to be able to complete the jobs assigned to us well and on time.
- If you can, donate money towards our mission trip. We are responsible for making a donation to CAMP JOY and for

supplying some of the building materials. Any amount you can give will be greatly appreciated!

God bless you and thank you for your support of the youth of our Area Youth Ministry.

### Spirituality and Sexuality Survey

On Sunday, July 11 (after the 10:00 am service), and Sunday, July 25 (after both the 8:00 am and 10:00 am services), St George's parishioners are invited to participate in a research study that examines the relationship between spirituality and sexuality, conducted by Martha Horn as part of her PhD dissertation. Everyone between the ages of 18 and 70 are invited to participate.

Martha will provide refreshments and participants will be asked to ANONYMOUSLY complete several instruments. No names will be recorded in any of the information collected. The instruments will take approximately 45 minutes to complete. Please make plans to participate in this important project. If you have questions, please contact Martha directly.

### From the Parish Register

#### Next Dates for Holy Baptism:

- St. James' Day, July 25, 2004
- All Saints' Sunday, November 7, 2004

#### Average Sunday Attendance (January-June)

