

Photo Album

Mother Susan and Rosa Soliz have joined the diocesan Hispanic Ministry Task Force. They also lead an exploratory group at St. George's to discuss future ministry possibilities. They recently attend a conference on Hispanic ministry at Our Saviour, Hillendale.

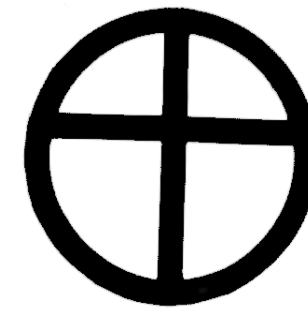


Pancake Breakfast
Sunday, March 21
(Mothering Sunday)
Youth Group Fundraiser for
Camp Joy Mission Trip

Adults \$5
Seniors \$4
Children \$3
(Under 6 free)
Household Max: \$15

Come support our Youth Group!

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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March 2004

Volume 3, Number 3

**"What has God Been Up To?"
 Continues**

Our Lenten program "What Has God Been Up to?" continues through March. We got off to a great start with Dr. Louie Crew on February 29. Below are our guests and topics for the next four weeks.

March 7—Ms. Diane Pollard
The Struggle to Build an Anti-Racist Church

Diane Pollard is a cradle Episcopalian and a native New Yorker. Her professional training as a human resource, pension, and employee benefits professional has enabled her to serve in various volunteer roles in the church. She has served as a Trustee of the Church Pension Fund and a Trustee of General Seminary. Diane is also active in the Diocese of New York where she serves as a Trustee of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. Diane is a founding member of the Episcopal Urban Caucus and currently serves as treasurer of the board. In addition, Diane is currently a member of Executive Council and a member of the vestry of Trinity Church, Wall Street.

March 14—the Rev. Michael Hopkins
Praying Shapes Action

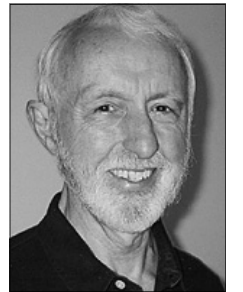
Our Rector will speak about how the development of the current Prayer Book served as both support and encouragement for the church's movements in the area of social justice over the past 35 years. Praying not only shapes believing, it also shapes action! Fr. Michael is a student of



liturgical history and theology, having studied in the doctoral program in liturgical theology at the Catholic University of America from 1988-1992.

March 21—Mr. John Vanderstar
On Being a Straight White Male in the Midst of a Changing Church

John Vanderstar retired in the Fall of 2000 as a partner in a large Washington law firm. He has been a member of St. Columba's in Washington for 35 years. He has been elected four times to serve in the General Convention House of Deputies and last summer was elected to serve as the lay representative of Province III on Executive Council. John has long been active in civil rights and civil liberties, having served on the Board of the ACLU of the National Capital Area in the 1970s, two years as its president, and on the Board of the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund from 1979 to 1994. He presently serves as a Trustee of the (National) Cathedral Foundation.



March 28—Ms. Marge Christie
Finding a Woman's Place in the Church

Marge Christie has been a deputy to General Convention from the Diocese of Newark at every Convention since 1976. She was a member of Executive Council from 1979-1985. She was President of the Episcopal Women's Caucus from 1988-1991, and has served on the National Council of Churches' Justice for Women Working Group since 1980.



Vestry Nominations Sought

If you are interested in running for a spot on the Vestry, please speak to one of the members of the nominating committee: Libbie Griffin, Lee Rowe, or Lois Rapp. A job description is posted on the narthex bulletin board. Nominations must be made public by April 2, 2004. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 2, 2004 following the late Service.

CAMP JOY--Think Summer!

by Erin Iverson, Area Youth Minister

At this writing, I have registered 21 youth and 4 adults from Holy Trinity, 11 youth and 2 adults from St. Andrew's, 7 youth and 2 adults from St. George's, and 9 youth and 1 adult from St. Christopher's for CAMP JOY! We have submitted our application to the administrators at CAMP JOY and await their guidance back to us about the work projects that await us this summer. There is a possibility that the week could change to July 17-24 if the CAMP JOY staff decides that our large group would best be used for the week when there are "bigger" projects. As soon as we get final word from CAMP JOY administrators, we'll let all participants know which week we will definitely be going, and what preparations we will be doing between now and July.

We are all overwhelmed with the enthusiasm and number of participants this year. Thanks to all who are signed up to go. Please keep us in your prayers as we plan and prepare for our week doing God's work in the hills of West Virginia. Contributions towards our mission trip are gratefully accepted! And there are other ways to help without spending a week in West Virginia. Please contact Erin Iverson (301-351-2280, emivers@hotmail.com) if you have any questions about how you can help us make this trip a success for our young people.

St. George's Musicians Work on Teamwork

Those involved in music ministry at St. George's met in mid-January for an extended time together at the invitation of the Rector to talk about their ministries and begin to do some visioning for the future. It was an excellent time together that we want to report on to the parish.

First and foremost, we strive to become a team, rather than the separate entities of "Organist" and "Folk Group." To that end, we are retiring the name "St. George's Folk," and even the use of the term "folk group." We seek to all be music ministers, serving as one team, coordinated by Bryan Crocheron, who is the Director of Music.

Second, we intend to be much more intentional in our planning. We seek to eliminate the stress of last-minute hymn choosing!

Third, we seek to re-envision what a "choir" at St. George's would look like, and, to that end, we invite any who are interested in singing any week to join us on "Music Rehearsal Night" at 7:30 pm on Wednesdays. We will only occasionally be singing "special music," for which we will put out an "all call." The Wednesday rehearsal is open to anyone who wants to help us lead

The Wider Circle

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Rector

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Priest Associate

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Glenn Dale Parish Vestry:

- Michael Hopkins, Rector
- Libbie Griffin, Senior Warden
- Lee Rowe, Junior Warden
- Thyra Packett
- Martha Horn
- Rick Boda
- Jeanette Greaney
- Leigh Hollis
- Kim Newman
- Jeanette Davis, Treasurer
- Debbie Nebel, Clerk
- Karen Horrocks, Convention Delegate
- John Clinton Bradley, 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.

congregational singing, which means fist and foremost, learning the hymns.

Fourth, we want to continue St. George's tradition of diversity in music and seek to increase it by the gradual introduction of some Spanish language hymns.

We rejoice that George's is a singing congregation!

Help Plan for Easter Liturgy

Planning for Easter worship services will take place from 10 am to 1 pm on Saturday, March 20. To participate, you must sign up on the narthex bulletin board and take a set of pre-session readings. All are welcome who want both to learn and participate in planning. The Great Fifty Days of Easter involves 8 Sundays (including Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost) and Ascension Day. The purpose of the session is to set overall themes and guide the choosing particular ways in which we will celebrate the season.

From the Rector

St. David's Day, 2004

Dear People of God,

I'm using my column this month to tell you of an important decision John and I have made and that, God willing, will result in an event that we will celebrate together in three months time.

On April 3rd, John and I will celebrate the 12th anniversary of our life together. On June 12th, Bishop Chane will preside at a celebration and blessing of our relationship at St. George's.

Why are we doing this at this point in our life? It is partly, of course, because we are now able to do so openly given last summer's General Convention and Bishop Chane's support for blessing same-sex relationships. But we also feel it is time for us to have a "Eucharistic moment" in our relationship. We have been through a great deal together over the past five or six years and we want to say thank you to God for the gift we are to each other.

We are still in the early planning stages, but I do want to let everyone know so that you can mark your calendars (it's set for 4 pm). The members of the Vestry are aware of our plans and have been wonderfully supportive. Martha Horn is their liaison with us in the planning of this event. All who receive this newsletter should consider themselves invited.

John and I are very grateful for the St. George's community. You continue to be a major

source of support and strength for us. The thanksgiving we offer on June 12th will include enormous gratitude for our parish family.

Lift up your hearts!

+Michael

Directory Updates

Changes:

- The Rev. Susan Astarita
Phone: 301-951-8302
- Tona Jarnagin
Tonaj2003@comcast.net
- Lynn Palmatier Soule
3706 Fairly St.
Silver Spring, MD 20906
301-946-0515

Additions:

- Marie Holmes
209 Baybourne Dr.
Arnold, MD 21012
443-223-9399
mholmes@cablespeed.com
- Patrick Hardy & Steven Scott
2501 Smoketree Ln.
Crofton, MD 21114
410-451-1414
croftbear@yahoo.com
- Denise Tilroco & Fran White
(Dommanita, Jerome, Jasmine)
3917 Madison
Hyattsville, MD 20781
301-864-5264

Parish Register

Average Attendance Thru February

