



Saint Mary's Messenger

June and July, 2009



Beloved of Saint Mary's,

Thirty years ago this June, I graduated from seminary. Fifteen pounds and two inches of waist later, I have been thinking about change in the church since then. In 1979, we were surviving controversies over prayer book revision and women's ordination. Now, issues surrounding sexual orientation and our relationship within the Anglican Communion have taken their place.

Somehow we shall survive these too. All of church history testifies to this. There always has been and always will be some tension in the church. What matters is how well we behave when issues divide us and how well we persevere in the essential ministry and mission of the church when they do.

A notable change in everyday parish life is the advent of the computer and all that entails. A good website has become a must for membership growth. The church is becoming a cyberspace community. Church chatter is moving from the parking lot to e-mail. Like divisive issues, some things don't change; they just shift to another area. E-mail and cell phones have greatly increased the availability of the clergy, but most of us still prefer the face-to-face pastoral care.

There has been a gradual shift among church-goers to what seems to me a consumer mentality. People shop around for a package of services which a church might offer and for certain compatibilities they might have with a given congregation. Loyalty to a package of programs, a current worship style and the current clergy has eclipsed longtime loyalty to one faith community within one denomination. When the parish clergy change or the parish program changes or evolves in any way, folks have a tendency to look around, oftentimes regardless of established relationships and denomination.

Regardless of changing times, I believe it is crucial to remember what makes us who we are as a church. Way back in 1886, the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church pondered what matters most to us. They did so for the sake of considering possible union with other denominations. Simply stated, they are:

1. The Bible as containing everything necessary to save us from whatever we need saving from.
2. The Nicene Creed as a sufficient statement of the Christian faith.
3. Holy Baptism and Holy Eucharist as the sacraments which tell us who we are.
4. The ministry of Bishops to keep us united and on track.

I like the economy of this. This is our sticking place. Everything else is changeable, debatable, or otherwise optional equipment for discipleship within and through the church. I sincerely believe that the church can weather change as long as we hold to these four and seek the Holy Spirit's guidance in both interpretation and application. By the way, this has not changed since 1979 or 1886 or the early centuries of the church.

Reflecting on the past thirty years of ordained ministry, I also have been thinking about a portion of a favorite prayer of mine:

"...We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us. We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone..." *BCP, P. 836*

The prayer puts the years in perspective.

Your brother in Christ,
Blaney+

Saint Mary's Episcopal Church, 170 St. Andrews Road, Columbia, SC 29210, (803) 798-2776
Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 8:00 and 10:30 and in Spanish at 12:30, and Wednesdays with Healing Service at 6:00 p.m.
Evening Prayer: Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.;
Morning Prayer: Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.



NOTES FROM THE
SENIOR WARDEN

Thankfulness for Community

As a way of saying thank you to all who supported and comforted me through the time of my mother's death, I dedicate this writing.

I am usually very organized and one who is able to make decisions during a crisis. My friends say I am a good person to have around in an emergency. When my mother had a stroke a couple of weeks prior to her dying, I realized that death would not be too far away. As her transition began, I could not get organized or make clear decisions about what I needed to do. Thanks be to God for my community of friends and believers.

To my priests, Father Pridgen and Father Clements, thank you for patiently listening, for your follow-up phone calls, and for your offers to help in any way. And to the Daughters of the King, thank you for your prayers. You all were the support and comfort I needed.

To my friend Lin, thank you for sitting with me at the nursing home during Mother's last evening on this earth. Thank you for being my driver, going to the funeral home with me and helping to write her obituary. And to my friend Erle, thank you for being my airport limo service. You both were the support and comfort I needed.

To Jerva, Louise, Terry, Jane, Donna, Jeri, Kathy and Weesie, thank you for food and grocery items you supplied. I had family coming from Atlanta, Hilton Head, and Chicago. Your thoughtfulness assured that there was always something to eat and drink for everyone. I couldn't get my thoughts organized enough to even make out a grocery list, much less shop or prepare anything. Your love and food gifts were the support and comfort I needed.

To all who expressed their sympathy with flowers, cards, e-mails, phone calls, and hugs; thank you. Your presence was the support and comfort I needed.

All these actions have brought me to a point of reflection about community. None of us live totally unto ourselves, and we all experience life changes. Winds of change blow through our lives, sometimes like a slow steady breeze and sometimes like a quick tropical storm. We are sustained through those changes by the loving presence, support and comfort of our community of friends and believers. Never pass up the opportunity to be someone's support and comfort in a time of need.

Pat Stout, Senior Warden

Saint Mary's Messenger

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Mailing: Patrick Coward



Parish Network

In times of crisis we all want to call on our compassionate and supportive clergy, and there are parishioners eager to help. Please call the church office, 798-2776, and let them know the situation. Someone from the Parish Network will contact you. We want to be there for you, whether with just a card or meals to help in your time of need.

Chairs for **June** are Julie Blanchette 749-1225 and Martha Leonard 781-3774.
Chairs for **July** are Jane Bleckley 732-5852 and Jan Jernigan 359-1323.

Team Members for **June** are:

Barbara Bauknight	732-6210
Laura Berry	760-3228
Bonnie and John Bolt	732-4015
Barbara and Jamie Coleman	749-9927
Joy and John Gray	781-0297
Nancy Hamilton	749-1943
Sarah and Michael Hooks	407-6483
Marti and Jim Hooten	407-7427
Joan and Kevin Johnston	798-1818
Catherine and Todd Latiff	732-0264
Joanne Leonard	781-3774
Kim and Steve Minton	996-1390
Becky and Steve Pearson	732-0778
Elizabeth and David Simmons	798-2425
Cee and Bob Spencer	772-2318

Team Members for **July** are:

Tammy Bingenheimer	794-5377
Barbara Brooks	798-7657
Diana and Birch Cannon	359-2458
Janet Cordovano	732-4025
Dede and Leighton Cornish	528-8599
Ingrid and Brent Driggers	749-5983
Mandy and Brian Dunn	917-9700
Sherry and Hal Hunt	732-4639
Bev King	749-9244
Cheryl Kelly	781-0409
Ashley Lunan	787-4427
Kara Marsh	732-3922
Joyce and John Pipkin	732-2193
Marie and Ralph Rubeiz	772-3729
Dale and John Siemers	345-9790
Jeannie Sullivan	732-2313
Wanda and David Tarpley	772-8209
Peri and Mitchell Tibshrany	790-9714
Peggy Pickles	732-1783



We pray for all who have died especially:

Gladys Sinclair, mother of Duan Sinclair; William James Turbeville, uncle of Enid Conner; Emmie Burns, mother of Linda Jackson; and Mildred Dart, mother of John Dart and grandmother of Frank Dart.

NEEDED: Shepherds for New Sheep



In the past six months we have started a new program called Shepherds to welcome the new members to Saint Mary's. When a family or individual "does their paperwork" and becomes a member, they are assigned someone to make them feel more a part of our church family. The Shepherd will introduce them to others at Hospitality time, inform them of upcoming events, such as Vacation Bible School or the Island Party, and generally be a friend for about a year.

Because of our growth, we are in need of more Shepherds!! If you are willing to be a part of this ministry, please contact Sue Netzloff (suenetzloff@gmail.com) or Terry Henshaw (thenshaw@bellsouth.net). If any of you "old" shepherds are willing to take an additional new member, please let us know. Please continue to wear your nametags to the Hospitality Hall and leave them there when you go home. That is

the place we get to talk to one another.

Thank you for your warm welcoming of all of our visitors who will hopefully want to become a part of our Saint Mary's family.
Terry Henshaw



June 2009

2 June Slusser	17 Becky Godshall
2 Tanner Matthews	17 Kipp Hoffman
3 Beth Campbell	17 Charlotte Schwartz
3 Timothy Withington	18 Harry Hansen
4 Mary Joyner	18 Dee Hansen
4 Deloris Mungo	20 Larry Nichols
5 Pat Stout	21 Kelly Withington
6 John Gardner	21 Aliza Darnell
6 Charlie Stith	22 Zack Pearson
8 Ben Herritage	22 Ashlyn Laney
10 Peri Tibshrary	23 Rosemary Buzzell
10 Harry Coleman	24 Mary Middleton
10 Kathryn Sherry Grover	24 Pete Balbach
10 Mary Ashley Hooten	24 Jeff Tarpley
11 John Humphries	26 Debbie Thomas
12 Martha McDade	26 Danielle Varnedoe
12 Katie McGarrigle	28 Thibaut
16 Sara Marsh	Fernandez-King
17 Jane Bleckley	29 Bob Rike

July 2009

1 Ruth Callison	16 Brian Dunn
1 Cameron Jordan	17 Chip Taylor
2 Catherine Latiff	17 Mary Wyatt
3 Hal Hunt	17 Kristi Deveau
3 Tanner Fralick	18 Nancy Davis
5 Mitchell Wyatt	19 Mike Carothers
6 Carrie Lyerly	19 Kate Reedy
6 Elizabeth Buzzell	21 Corey Lombardo
4 Brandon McDonald	22 Mary Kiddoo
8 Curt Rone	22 Kristin Ryan
8 Robin Mullins	23 Jeannine Romano
8 Hanna Cargill	24 Ellen Wecker
9 Joseph Benedetto	24 Mimi Waymer
10 Margaret Towson	25 Gerald Sullivan
10 Jenna Grover	25 Leigh Brightwell
11 Jackie Cole	26 Donna Rone
11 Rick Jackson	26 Brenda Dail
11 Katie Burdett	28 Ashley Wellman
11 Reagan Hooks	28 Grayson Vazquez
11 Anthony Lombardo	29 Nancy Hughes
12 J P Wright	29 Nick Pinelli
13 Taylor Jeziorski	30 John Graham
14 Betsy Spriggs	30 Valerie Bryan
15 Charlotte Dunn	30 Henley Ellis
15 Stephanie Lyerly	31 Steve Mungo
16 Donald McLellan	31 Grace Lumpkin
16 Jordan Cannon	31 Owen Driggens

We pray for all expectant mothers, especially: Amanda Livermont, Jill Willhoft, Lizabee Rone Ciesar, Meredith Mims McTigue, Bonnie Middleton Lindsay, Jarrett Davis, Leslie Stiles, Nicole Verner, Kathryn Graham, Lisa Skinner, Sylvia Byrd, Michelle McLeod, Christine Tibshrary Koutrakos, and Melanie Hundley..

PRAY FOR OUR

MILITARY

Billy Schaefer	Wiley Alford
Marilyn Jenkins	Matthew Brooks
Stephen McDaniel	James Guillerault
Alston Middleton	Joshua Chastain
David Bland	David Weinke
Edgar Martin	Quentin Parker
John Burdett	Leighton Cornish
Jim Blanchette	Talcott Nichols
Jonathan Withington	Eric Aliffi
Robert S. Gonzalez	Brick Bailey
Jasper Varn	Stan Sheftall
Marc Fowler	Kyle Beaver
Clint Hundley	Lonnie Richards
Greg Vaughn	Adam Rosenbaum
Jonathan Guillerault	Michael Graham
David Gray	Jeremy Russell
Samson Chastain	Jay Kirkland
John Nethercutt	Matt McCollum
Mallory Rebecca McKendry	Kurt Love



FLAG DAY
June 14, 2009



**ANNUAL
ISLAND NIGHT PARTY
AUGUST 15, 2009 - 7 P.M.**

**** MARK YOUR CALENDAR ****

This year's **ISLAND NIGHT PARTY** is planned for **Saturday, August 15 at 7 p.m.** in the **Parish Hall** to raise funds for the ongoing children's education project of the Mission des Cayes in the South of Haiti.

Saint Mary's has participated in this Episcopal mission since 1998, and our goal is to continue to help provide an opportunity for education to the children and young adults of our partner parish communities in Les Cayes and Cavaillon, Haiti. Education is one of the key ways that Haiti, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, can have any chance of being lifted out of grinding poverty and distress. The average cost of education for one student for one year is \$120 – an affordable amount for most of us, but over 1/3 of the average annual income of a Haitian family.

Island Party guests will have an opportunity to participate in a Silent Auction featuring artwork by local and Haitian artists, weekend getaways and a variety of other items and services. Heavy hors d'oeuvres, beverages and island music will be provided. The minimum donation at the door is \$20 per person.

Everything for the party is donated, so **every dollar raised will go directly to the Haiti Children's Education Fund**. Do not miss this festive event and occasion to give the students of our Haiti mission a gift of hope. The Island Party is an **adult only** event. On Sunday afternoon, August 16, our annual Banana Split Party **for the children** of Saint Mary's will be provided by Outreach Ministry Members (more information will follow later on this children's activity). Contact Susan Elwood, 732-3918, or Joyce Pipkin, 413-3128, for more information.



**NEWS
FROM OUR
PARISH
NURSES**

We now have an office next to the Mary room in the Jerusalem wing and will be in the office most Mondays, available for questions or visitation, starting the second week of June. Our phone number at the Church is extension 109. If we are not available, you can leave a message on the voice mail and we will get back to you as soon as possible. We will also be available as needed on other days.

Some of you filled out Health Surveys and had blood pressure screening during the five Sundays of Lent. There were 25 surveys completed after the 8:00 service; 55 surveys completed after the 10:30 service; and 29 surveys completed after the Hispanic service. Many parishioners want to learn CPR and First Aid. Other topics receiving interest include nutrition, weight control and exercise; living wills/advanced directives; caring for the aged; mental and emotional issues; and arthritis and low back pain. We plan to use the information we received to plan future programs and articles for the newsletter. We are also part of the Mature Adult Ministry which will offer upcoming programs on arthritis and Medicare.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, August 29, for our first educational program. Topic and time to be announced in the August newsletter.

Sue Netzloff, RN, FCN and Jody Davidson, RN, FCN



"I write so people will read." Author Erik Larson, when asked why he chose to write history in fictional story form

Larson's book, *The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic and Madness at the Fair that Changed America*, provides a "truth is stranger than fiction" story of the making of the 1893 Chicago World's Fair and of a serial killer who took advantage of that setting.

Saint Mary's Book Club discussed Larson's book at our May gathering. *The Devil in the White City* received **3.1** crowns out of a possible **5** crowns from the club members present who had read the entire book.

While reading a variety of genres and topics is certainly one of our group's goals, fellowship and fun are priorities, also. Marie Ruiz and her sister, Millie See, led a delightful and entertaining discussion, starting with Marie's playing a tape of fair music to get us into the spirit! In addition to other "props," Marie brought fabulous munchies, decorating the table with a white table cloth (to represent the White City) and a pair of large, black horns (the devil)! Millie's sister-in-law, LaVonne See, also came to enjoy the evening with us.

In *The Devil in the White City*, whose genre is history and true crime, Larson employs a technique common in fiction: including "hooks" at the end of chapters to pique the reader's interest. Based on actual events and filled with a host of real characters (including Frederick Law Olmsted, who designed the fair's landscape and New York's Central Park), it is the story primarily of two men: Daniel Burnham, the architect of the 1893 Fair, and Dr. H.H. Holmes, a.k.a., Herman Webster Mudgett. Holmes/Mudgett, who killed around the same time as Jack the Ripper in London, was one of our nation's first serial killers, and he found the fair to be the perfect venue for luring his female victims to their deaths.

The 1893 Fair, known as the Columbian Exposition and the White City, was held to commemorate Christopher Columbus' discovery of America. Coming on the heels of the unveiling of Paris' Eiffel

Tower, the 1893 Fair's architects wanted to "out-Eiffel Eiffel." Mark Twain aptly named this period in our nation's history "The Gilded Age:" a period of Vanderbilts and Rockefellers; a time when Edison and Tesla of Westinghouse vied to light the World's Fair, and an opportunity for George Ferris to create the grandest of all riding wheels, the Ferris Wheel. Each time the Ferris Wheel ran, a band rode and played in one of the wheel's cars, and each car held up to sixty occupants. The 1893 Columbian Exposition ended the 19th Century, a century of brilliance and darkness.

Our group discussed the brilliance and darkness, likewise, of the two main characters. Both Burnham and Holmes were gifted at persuasion, and both were charismatic, creative, and persistent. Both were driven, and both exhibited hubris. For example, while girls at the fair kept disappearing, no bodies were found; it was Holmes himself who attracted attention through committing insurance fraud.

Overall, the group enjoyed Larson's book. Some much preferred the vivid descriptions of the making of the fair to the serial killer plot, and one member started the book but did not finish it because she was not enjoying the book. Another member had not had time to read this particular book, but enjoyed the discussion nonetheless.

Please join us for Book Club one month, regardless of whether you have read any or all of the book for that month. All comments -- positive or negative -- about a book or author are welcome, as are suggestions for future reading. We rotate discussion leaders, and they have all been wonderful.

Our book for **Sunday, June 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Hospitality Hall**, is *The Secret Life of Lobsters: How Fishermen and Scientists are Unraveling the Mysteries of our Favorite Crustacean*, written by Trevor Corson and recommended by club member Judith Stiles. Judith and/or Debbie Thomas will lead our discussion, and Bonnie Bolt and I will have yummy goodies and drinks to go along with the book's theme.

July 12 at 7:00 p.m. will feature a discussion of Paula Uruburu's book, *American Eve: Evelyn Nesbit, Stanford White, the Birth of the "It" Girl, and the Crime of the Century*.

You are invited!

Kathy Gettys



ST. LAWRENCE PLACE

July Charity Sunday

For sometime now, Blaney+ has been talking about an activity for outreach that might have CHURCHWIDE participation. I believe we have found it with St. Lawrence Place. On **Sunday, July 5**, our Charity Sunday donations will be given to St. Lawrence Place which is the primary program of Trinity Housing Corp., a 501©3, not-for-profit organization located at Waites Road in Columbia.

Their Vision - To be a recognized leader for transitioning families from homelessness to permanent housing and independent living.

Their Mission - To provide support services, life skills, and transitional housing to enable homeless families to achieve independent living as productive members of the community.

What is provided? St. Lawrence Place is a community of 28 homes, providing programming and transitional housing for up to two years to qualifying families. More than bricks and mortar, St. Lawrence Place provides the structure, training and support families in crisis need to regain their independence.

Once placed in a St. Lawrence Place home, family members are required to participate in counseling and skill development related to the four main causes of homelessness in families: underemployment, undereducation, lack of affordable or adequate childcare, and insufficient life skills.

To stay in the program, families are required to actively participate in these life skills. An after-school program is provided for their children that gives children access to healthy snacks, fun, educational activities, and one-on-one academic assistance. St. Lawrence Place is a viable solution for families if they are willing to do what it takes, seeing the program requirements through to emerge on the other side, and face the future as a family that CAN succeed!

How can we at St. Marys help? In addition to the monetary donations from our Charity Sunday, there are many opportunities for CHURCHWIDE PARTICIPATION including a very active volunteer program mentoring children, teens and adults; homework help; Children's Summer Camp; teaching life-skill classes; light yard work; and administrative work. There is the Adopt-A-Home Program which consists of maintenance and upkeep of the 28 apartments, There are opportunities to donate and supply what is needed to furnish the apartments because the families of St. Lawrence Place have lost their homes and they no longer have the basic material possessions that we take for granted. These items might include household furniture, cooking utensils, dishes, blankets, laundry and personal items, etc. just to mention a few. All of these items are taken with them when the family is ready to leave.

St. Lawrence Place is not just a house, it's a home where people are valued and respected for who they are and who they can be. It is a place of safety, a way to come in from the "storms of life," to be re-energized to go back out into the world stronger and better able to cope!

Sue Netzloff
Outreach Ministry

NEWS FROM



THE RE-CHARGE GROUP

The Re-Charge group is for all parishioners and friends at Saint Mary's to get to know each other as we continue on our spiritual journey together. The target age is 20's -40's, but all are welcome to join in any event.

SERVICE PROJECT

Jammies for GI's, a non-profit organization, that helps provide pajamas and personal items to our injured men and women returning from overseas. In most cases, these brave heroes come back with nothing and no family to provide for their immediate needs. It may be weeks before their personal items are returned to them if they were stationed overseas. **Jammies for GI's** steps in and provides comfortable jammies, tooth brushes, razors, hair brushes and other personal care items for them. We would like to help collect donated new, Velcro closure/elastic pajamas, sizes medium, large and extra-large and any new personal care items you would like to give for these men and women, our wounded vets. Watch for more information in the bulletins, and on the bulletin boards or you can visit their website: <http://www.jammiesforgis.org/volunteer.asp> and get a complete list of needed items.

Collection bins will be provided until June 30 in the Parish Hall. If you would like to volunteer to help or have any questions, please contact Tracy Matthews or Tammy Bingenheimer. This is a combined venture among the Outreach Ministry, the Mom's Group and the Re-charge Group.



PARISH LIFE

Thank you to all the new and old members who came to the Friday night Meet and Greet in May. It was a fantastic turnout and a lot of fun! This event would not have occurred without the hard work of Terry Henshaw, Peggy Davis, Jody Davidson, Morgan Fields, Jackie and Bob Cole and Janice Smith. We hope to do this event again in the future. Have a great summer and look for events to come in the Fall!

Lynne Shirey



E C W NEWS

Upcoming Events:

NO PLANNING MEETINGS OVER THE SUMMER!

St. Margaret's Guild will not meet

over the summer. Our next meeting will be in the fall.

Thanks to Dawn Corley, The Charleston Silver Lady, for a wonderful program at our Spring Branch Meeting & Salad Supper. She was a wonderful speaker, and we all learned so much about silver. It was a memorable night of great food and fellowship.

Jerva Applegate,
Promotion & Publicity



We have had a wonderful year and don't want to lose our momentum.

Watch your e-mail for summer activities. Thanks to all our wonderful parents and leaders, Philip and Joli Wall, Tracy Matthews and a BIG thank you to Janice and Greg Smith. They helped us in the corn maze, feeding the homeless, hiding Easter eggs, helping with the Halloween Carnival, a fun beach trip and many other activities.

Have a SAFE summer and see you soon.

Cecile A. Strait



A Blood drive will be held at Saint Mary's in July! Please check Sunday bulletins for future information.

Contact Tammy Bingenheimer if you can help or have any questions.

(803)794-5377 or simplegirl67@bellsouth.net.

Endowment Fund



Fellow Parishoners, did you know that Saint Mary's has an Endowment Fund? We do! Want to know more about it? Well, here are the basics and the history. The article explains how to contribute. As time goes by, the Fund will grow in asset value, but it will do so in a meaningful way only with your help and generous contributions. It is truly a gift that keeps on giving.

Purpose – The Endowment fund was established to increase the outreach assets of Saint Mary's through long term investments that will increase the principal value (grow the asset) and allow for expenditures from the earnings (dividends and interest). Projects for expenditures would be recommended and directed by the Outreach Ministry and approved by the Vestry. The

Outreach Endowment Board goals are:

- To grow the endowment to a minimum of \$100,000, before any interest or earnings are allocated to Outreach (for any reason) so the earnings income will yield a significant amount for meaningful outreach each year (i.e., 5% interest X \$100,000 = \$5000)
- Attract new additional contributions to the endowment fund.
- Provide information to our members as to the value of the endowment on a quarterly basis (for example: in the Saint Mary's Newsletter) and how they might contribute.

Gifts – Anyone may make a contribution to the endowment. Gifts can be cash, securities, property, insurance proceeds or designations from a will. (The Diocese has strict rules governing the handling of some types of gifts, and we at Saint Mary's would be bound by them.) For gifts of cash simply designate that it is for the endowment fund. A gift in remembrance of, or thanksgiving for, loved ones or friends is a wonderful way to help build the endowment. Contact the church office for specifics or contact the Rector at (803) 798-2776.

History – In the late 1990's two parishioners anonymously gave \$5000 each to Saint Mary's with the stipulation that the funds would be invested and used for mission and outreach. The initial gifts were invested in a money market fund. By 2008, the amount had grown to \$25,000. At our annual parish meeting in 2008, we voted a change in our by-laws to establish our first ever permanent endowment fund and a ministry to serve as its governing board (named the Outreach Endowment Management Board).

The OEMB shall be comprised of the Treasurer (Chair); the Senior Warden; the Rector; a member of the Finance Ministry appointed by the Finance Ministry Vestry Liaison, and approved by the Vestry; the Outreach Ministry Vestry Liaison; and a member of the Outreach Ministry appointed by the Outreach Vestry Liaison, and approved by the Vestry. Except for the Treasurer and the Rector, the term of membership to the OEMB shall be three (3) years or as new officers of the Parish are elected, whichever occurs first, and members are ineligible for one (1) year after serving three (3) consecutive years.

In overseeing the activity of the endowment fund, some of the duties and responsibilities of the OEMB as defined by Saint Mary's by-laws are: accept and appropriate gifts into the fund, invest funds with reputable financial organization(s), review investment earnings and performance, notify the Vestry annually of earnings available for distribution, and distribute earnings for Vestry approved outreach projects.

THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

**Yours in Faith,
Larry Nichols,
Outreach Endowment Board Member**





A Wonderful Experience!

At the end of April, ten of our Junior High youth got to experience fun, spirituality, and new friendships all in one weekend. They attended the New Beginnings at Camp Gravatt, along with 100 other Junior High youth from the Upper Diocese of South Carolina. During this weekend, they met new friends, discussed

topics relating to being a teen in today's world, along with games, great food, and, of course, a dance. Not only did they have a good time attending, but they enjoyed seeing one of Saint Mary's own amazing youth, Grayson Vazquez, leading a large part of the weekend. Grayson did an outstanding job leading field games, group discussions, and also revealing a part of his spirituality to 110 other teenagers. We are so proud of you, Grayson!

If you want to see some fun pics, check out the youth bulletin board in the Hospitality Hall, and you may also log onto edusc.org and follow the links to youth events/jr.high spring retreat and see posted pics. I hope to have them posted to the Saint Mary's website soon.

During these tough economic times, it can be difficult for some to be able to attend a retreat; however, through the generosity of some people in our parish, all of our youth that wanted to go were able to do so. Thank you so much to those who helped make this happen, as we are blessed to have kind hearts that want to see it happen. Each youth was asked what their favorite part of the weekend was, and I will end with their words:

"The dance and swimming." **Walker Head**

"The dance." **Thibaut Fernandez-King**

"I loved the dance, swimming, and the food." **Andrew Slack**

"The dance, swimming, and small groups." **Tab Hirsch**

"The dance, small groups, and Matt Gilman.." **Kristin McGilton**

"The talent show and the dance." **Emily Simmons**

"Sleeping and getting the shower." **Adjysen Ellis**

"Meeting people and eating the food." **Ragan Head**

"Meeting new people, being outdoors at camp, and learning about Jesus..." **Julia Pickett**

"Being in the talent show..." **Tanner Matthews**

Elizabeth Simmons



A Call for the Parishioners of Saint Mary's

The Outreach Ministry would like to request your donation of time. We are requesting an additional four (4) hours of your time between now and September 30, to reach out to the community. Time is a valuable gift, and it is pleasing to God when we share our time with others.

The following are suggestions of what you might do: serve on a board of an organization, help the widow down the street by mowing her lawn, serve Meals on Wheels to the elderly, feed the homeless on Saturdays at Suggs and Kelly's parking lot, take a toddler to the zoo when a new baby comes to his home, help your neighbor with the latest project, offer a ride to someone, baby sit siblings while the parents run to the doctor with a sick child, take a meal to someone who has a need, make phone calls for a service project, visit residents in a nursing home who have few, if any, visitors, visit shut-ins, coach a sports team, etc., etc. There are many ways you can help your neighbors, your subdivision, your town or state. These are just a few ideas. If you need help identifying a project, call Larry Nichols, 530-0111 or email LSN111@sc.rr.com.

The Outreach Ministry would like to know what, where and for how long you gave of yourself to help others. When you have completed your four (4) hours, please fill out the card you will find in the Hospitality Room, and share with us your experience.

After compiling the information, we will submit it to the Stewardship ministry. Many of you will remember when we took a dollar and made it grow. This year we are asking you to give four (4) hours of your time to see how many people we can reach.

Outreach Ministry

Saint Mary's Episcopal Church

170 St. Andrews Road

Postage

Columbia, SC 29210

PAID

Non- Profit Organization

US

Columbia, SC

Permit Number 345



Saint Mary's Messenger

June and July, 2009

Church Staff

The Rt. Rev'd Dorsey F. Henderson, Jr., *Bishop*

The Rev'd J. Blaney Pridgen, III, *Rector*

The Rev'd C. Christopher Clements, *Priest Assistant*

The Rev'd Alfredo Gonzalez, *Priest and Spanish Missioner*

The Rev'd Ann Pilat, *Deacon for Hispanic Ministries for the Midlands*

The Rev'd Susan T. Parlier, *Deacon*

J. Franklin Ballard, *Parish Musician and Associate for Liturgy*

Judy S. Stephens, *Associate to the Rector for Administration*

Rita Kester, *Associate for Finance*

Antonio Cardenas, *Sexton*

The Vestry

Pat Stout, *Senior Warden*

Robert Hayden, *Junior Warden*

Michele Lyerly, *Treasurer*



Harriet Mobley, *Assistant Treasurer*

Catherine Pickett, *Clerk*

Cindy Burdett, Carmen Burgos, Brent Driggers,
Carol McGinnis Kay, Martha McDade, Keith McLeod,
Janice Smith, Mitchell Tibshirany, Pam Vazquez,
and Hoyt Wheeler