



# ST STEPHEN'S SIGNPOST

ST STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
HEATHSVILLE, VIRGINIA



A welcoming family united in Christian love, worship, and service

[ststephensheathsville.org](http://ststephensheathsville.org)

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## THE RECTOR'S COLUMN

One of the things I love about my ministry St. Stephen's is that when I arrive at the parish house, I take the Episcopal flag and place it outside. Everyone in Heathsville can see it as they drive past. I particularly love placing it right next to the sign that says, **The Episcopal Church Welcomes You**. Welcome is at the very center of this parish's mission and vision. This congregation flies its flag in Heathsville to show it is important for us to provide a welcoming faith community for ourselves, for each other, and for everyone in our area who seeks a spiritual home.

I am delighted to be in a parish that really does welcome young and old, new and long-standing, rich and poor, gay and straight.

Since the Episcopal Church's General Convention, I have been putting the flag out next to that sign with a little more oomph. I feel better able now to look a gay person in the eye and say "The Episcopal Church Welcomes You."

I am also deeply glad that our gay and lesbian members welcome the Episcopal Church into their lives, and welcome straight Christians into their lives, even after all the insults and mistreatment that heterosexuals in society, and in the Church, have inflicted on them for so many years

There is concern that the decisions made at General Convention will further strain our relationships with more conservative members of the Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church. I value those relationships. I don't want to push anyone away. I am happy to be in the same Communion with those whose views are different from mine, and I am sorry that some of them don't want to be in the same Communion with me

It may be that because the Episcopal Church welcomes gay people, other parts of the Anglican Communion may no longer welcome the Episcopal Church. I am still hopeful that calm heads will prevail at the international level and we will find a way to keep doing ministry together as a Communion, but I don't know. All I know is that pretending to be something I'm not, so that another person will accept me, is no basis for a relationship. The Episcopal Church at General Convention has said, "This is who we are."

When Edmund Browning was Presiding Bishop, he said, "There will be no outcasts in this Church." It is possible that because we won't treat gay people as outcasts, the Episcopal Church may be cast out of the Anglican Communion. Still, we follow Jesus, who welcomed the outcasts. At the end of the day, I believe that Jesus calls me to love my homosexual neighbor as my heterosexual self. I am very glad to be with you at St. Stephen's as we fly our flag, extend our welcome, and proclaim the good news of the gospel. God loves you. Love God. Love your neighbor.



Lucia +

## VESTRY MEETING NOTES:

The vestry met at 7:00 pm on Thursday, June 18.

All vestry members, treasurer and delegate were present. Lucia led the group in opening prayer. Minutes of the May 14th and May 28th meetings were approved.

Porch Project Update: the project is complete.

An exterior light with motion activation as been installed on the back corner of the parish house to illuminate the stairs and parking area. Rocco reported that the actual cost of the new A/C unit (and adjustments to the existing units) is considerably less than original estimates. A list of interior decorating and furniture needs (presented in priority order) is attached. \* These items will be purchased in order of need and as funds become available. The major expense items are 40 stacking chairs, rugs, and keyboard and sound system.

BBQ debrief: the skies cleared just in time, so a GREAT time was had by all. Net profits were \$6,071, slightly less than in 2008. Expenses were on budget but income from ticket sales and drinks were down. Larger drink cups may have been used inadvertently.

Treasurer's Report: YTD budget (thru 5/31) shows actual income slightly ahead of actual expenses. The BBQ fundraiser, a number of non-restricted gifts and slightly larger plate collection are keeping the budget basically on target. Administration, facilities and outreach expenses are running higher than budgeted.

Outdoor service cross: we plan to place a cross on the tree in the back yard just behind the location of the outdoor altar. Ted Hower will be asked to advise.

Diocese of Ft. Worth invitation: the continuing churches there have invited Lucia to visit and preach in September. They will pay travel expenses. This visit gives St. Stephen's an opportunity to "pay forward" the love and support given us by the larger Episcopal community.

Parish Life: The Northumberland Historical Society has asked St. Stephen's to make 60-70 box lunches for participants at their annual meeting on July 18th. Ellen Kirby will coordinate. Bev Carter's memorial service: will be a graveside service in the St. Stephen's Anglican cemetery on Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, followed by a reception at the parish house.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dick Eager, Register

\*Budget for furnishings is given on following page.

The vestry met at 7:00 pm on Thursday, July 16, 2009.

Vestry members present were Bill Kirby, Joel Stubbs and Rick Skelton. Also present were Ellen Kirby, Treasurer and Rocco Tricarico, Delegate. Lucia let the group in opening prayer. June minutes were approved.

Chapel update: A/C installation should be complete in time for the Bev Carter reception. \$2076 has been donated for furnishings and \$116 more committed. The existing arm chairs will be used in the porch enclosure and the new chairs in the former dining room.

Treasurer's Report: Income and expenses thru June 30th appear to be relatively equal.

Outdoor Service Schedule: October 11th proposed as final day for outdoor services, but of course weather may dictate the actual date. October 18th is the proposed date for the Chapel Dedication. The congregation will be asked for comment.

Shrinemont weekend on October 2, 3, & 4: Ellen Kirby volunteered to serve as event facilitator.

Jerusalem trip: Lucia will visit Jerusalem in November, as provided for by continuing education contract provision. She will be gone several weeks.

Mutual Ministry Review: Lindsey Ryland seeking an alternate facilitator.

Bev Carter Reception: Bev Carter 'party' will consist of 34 guests, including twelve children. Bill suggested erecting a tent.

Rick Skelton suggested updating the telephone list. Rocco noted that updating of the church roster is needed. Joel will monitor the grass cutting as per schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

Rocco Tricarico and Dick Eager, Register

### Leadership of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Lucia Lloyd, Priest in Charge

Vestry: Bill Kirby (09), Senior Warden  
Joel Stubbs (10), Junior Warden  
Dick Eager (11), Register  
Dawn Mahaffey (09)  
Nancy Gates (10)  
Rick Skelton (11)

Ellen Kirby, Treasurer

Rocco Tricarico, Council Delegate

Alice Hershiser, Musician and Choir Director

Amy Jones Parish Administrator

**FF&E FOR CHILTON CHAPEL**

<u>Budget</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Received</u>
Altar table		donated
Credence table		donated
Cross	\$150	will ask ECW
Candlelighter	\$100	ECW will
provide		
40 stacking chairs	\$2320	\$ 1232
received		
Windows	\$300	
Door	\$200	
Ceiling lights	\$190	
Area rug	\$800	
Lectern	\$250	
Linen/screen for bookcase	\$200	
Stained glass, hangings	\$500	
Sound system & keyboard	\$1,500	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,510</b>	<b>\$1,232</b>

## CHILTON HOUSE TO CHILTON CHAPEL

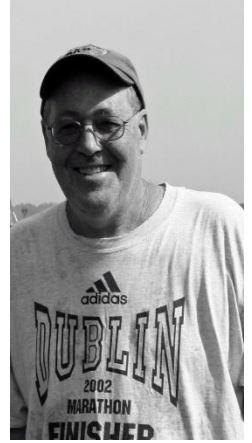
The transformation is taking place. The Furnishings, Fixtures and Equipment Committee (FF&E for short) has met and prioritized items which will enhance our indoor worship space. Generous financial donations from our immediate and extended family are making all this possible! We have received \$3,000 to date—almost half of our goal of \$6,360.

The renovations are finished---thank you Architect Rocco, Contractor Mike Gardner and his assistant Travis. The painting is also complete—thank you, Tony Rabalais, for your assistance! Now, we begin to add the furnishings that will make the space feel like a sanctuary.

Chairs have arrived, many paid for through individual donations and memorials. An altar and credence table will be donated by Anne Silver. Other items will be added as we work toward our October 18 Chapel Dedication.

Ideas and suggestions are welcome! Talk to the committee: Ellen Kirby, Dawn Mahaffey, Dolly Rabalais, Anne Silver, KK Crowther, Nancy Gates.

## SENIOR WARDEN COLUMN



Dear Folks,

Last Sunday we were once again reminded that we are “the church without walls”!

In the Old Testament reading for the day God tells David that “I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle.” Sound familiar? David is also reminded that never once has God asked, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?” So, for me, worship services don’t get much better than sitting comfortably in the shade on a delightful summer morning, with a gentle breeze and birds singing! Still, it is also nice to know that when the cooler breezes blow, we will have Chilton Chapel to serve as our “house of cedar”. Thus, the tentative schedule is to move our Sunday services back indoors starting October 18 with a special dedication of the new space and furnishings. Details will follow.

In the meantime, the final chapel construction phase will be completed by the time you read this. New chairs will also have arrived, thanks to donations from both within and outside of the congregation. If we need to retreat indoors because of weather, Chilton Chapel is good to go. Thank you Rocco, Ellen and the FF&E Committee!

The “Dog Days” are fast approaching, and many of us will be disappearing or hibernating in August; yet, much has been happening both in the parish and in the wider church. You can “read all about it” elsewhere in the newsletter. When I step back and reflect on where we are and how far we’ve come in less than three years -- I hope you agree -- it’s been a very good time to be an Episcopalian and a part of St. Stephen’s.

Faithfully,                      Bill

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY LUNCH

When Page Frischkorn, organizer for the Northumberland Historical Society's annual meeting, asked Meade Kilduff if our church would be willing to prepare box lunches for the attendees, a quick call to the senior warden set planning in motion. Thanks to the involvement of over 20 parishioners, St. Stephen's prepared and delivered 69 box lunches on July 18.

Grateful thanks to all who offered assistance, prepared and donated food, and assembled the boxes. Thank you to: Mason Brent who prepared and individually wrapped 72 deviled and decorated eggs; Anne Silver who whipped up 25 lbs of potato salad; Bill Kirby who roasted and carved beef; Pat Dean who contributed chicken salad to combine with Ellen Kirby's; Mary and Dick Eager for lemonade; Loretta Blakely for condiments; Meade and Margaret Cox for financial donations to defray the cost of ingredients; KK and Tommy Crowther for the boxes, containers, utensils, and napkins; Ann and Robert Reamy for the use of their coolers; Loretta Blakely, Lucia Lloyd, and Susan Tyler for prep work; Susan Tyler, Susan and Joel Stubbs, Betty Whiteside, Lynn and Ted Hower, Lucia Lloyd, Mary and Dick, Bill and Ellen for assembling the boxes; Susan Tyler, Betty, Bill, and Ellen for delivery; and Lucia for bringing the tea and lemonade pitchers back from the meeting.



Lucia was invited to give the invocation and blessing of the meal (Can we see Meade at work here?!) and reported back that the lunches were a success!!! Even the extra lunches we prepared all sold, and we

cleared \$700 on the event. Special thanks to Page for giving us the opportunity and to Meade, who always sees ways for us to use our talents to be a presence in the community.

## SHRINE MONT

Our Shrine Mont retreat will be the weekend of October 2-4, 2009. Mark your calendars now and plan to come! It is always a time of relaxation, spiritual growth, and fellowship.

The program this year will focus on Prayer and Temperament, using a book of the same name by Chester Michael and Marie Norrisey. The program will include an introduction to the Myers-Briggs Temperament Indicator (MBTI), a discussion of the

four basic prayer types as they relate to the MBTI types and practical examples of such prayer.

The book may be used as a guidebook on a journey of self-

revelation, growth and discovery, filled with wonder and respect for all whose various temperaments are woven into the canvas of our lives. Attendees will have an opportunity to complete the MBTI prior to the retreat. Bill Kirby, who is licensed to administer the MBTI, and Lucia Lloyd will lead the program.

Shrine Mont is located in Orkney Springs, Virginia, about one hour north of Harrisonburg. Set in a mountain woodland, the walking trails, pond, and lodges with porches invite relaxation and conversation---a delightful retreat!

The rates are \$138.94 per adult for Friday and Saturday's lodging and meals through lunch on Sunday.

Please contact Ellen Kirby if you wish to attend.



## 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL PLANT SALE

The Plant Posse has been hard at work accumulating plants, pots, planters, and other goodies for the Second Annual Plant Sale, September 5, from 9:00 to 1:00 at Chilton House.



The sale will feature more than 1000 hybrid daylilies, mums and other perennials, herbs, planters, birdbaths, other garden stuff, and more. Sandy Kirkpatrick has

completed a quilt that will be unveiled at the sale, to be raffled at the Oyster Roast in December. While we are closing in on our goal of 1000 items, we still need stuff! If you have plants, unusual planters, trellises, garden art, tools, or anything else you think might sell, let us know. Items should be in good condition. We can help clean up items. Rocco will be coordinating a call for brownies to be served as part of our free refreshments for customers.

We do need help setting up, parking, cashiering, assisting customers, serving refreshments, and taking down the plant sale. If you can help on the day before or the day of the sale, please let us know so we can add your name to the roster. Thanks in advance!

The Plant Posse (Dolly, Rocco,  
Barbara, Sandy, Betty, Ellen, Bill)

## MOWING ROSTER

To those who are mowing, trimming and weeding:

Aug 2-8 Herb Cox, Ellen Kirby, Amy Jones  
 Aug 9-15 Ted Hower, Bill Kirby, Loretta Blakely  
 Aug 16-22 Dick Eager, Joel and Susan Stubbs  
 Aug 23-29 Joel Stubbs, Phil Johnson, Phil Moore  
 Aug 30-Sept 5 Ted Hower, Bill and Ellen Kirby  
 Sept 6-Sept12 Phil Moore, Dick Eager, Loretta B.  
 Sept 13-19 Phil Johnson, Joel and Susan Stubbs  
 Sept 20-26 Bill and Ellen Kirby, Leslie Hatch

## MUSTARD SEED GRANT

### DEVELOPMENTS: Virginia Master Well Owner Network Conference

As I reported last month, we have developed specific goals to enhance our water ministry. First, we will zero in on education. We will educate ourselves and the larger community about various kinds of water treatment systems; acquire the skills to install those systems; monitor the different systems and gather data. We will develop a report of our findings and share the information with interested agencies and group and we will participate in the drilling of a test well in our county.

As a first step we hope that three or four (or more!) parishioners will attend the Master Well Owners Program sponsored by the Virginia Tech Cooperative Extension Service. This program is modeled after the Master Gardeners program, and participants are required to pass on information to the community.

The Virginia Master Well Owner Network (VAMWON) is a network of trained Virginia Cooperative Extension agents and volunteers promoting the proper construction and maintenance of private water systems in Virginia. VAMWON is looking for 240 volunteer statewide who are willing to be educated in all aspects of water quality, source water protection and proper well construction and maintenance.

After completing the one-day training session, volunteer will work with our local Extension agents to educate others in the community about their private water supplies. How perfectly this fits in with our Water Ministry!!

A training session will be held in Richmond at the end of August. Anyone who can attend, or who wishes to get involved with another aspect of these outreach opportunities, please see Ellen Kirby.

Many Thanks!

## General Convention Conclusions from Katherine Jefferts Schori, Peter James Lee, and Shannon Johnston

*After summarizing the work of the Convention, including the two resolutions that have attracted the most attention: D025 “Anglican Communion: Commitment and Witness to the Anglican Communion,” and C056 “Liturgies for Blessings,” the Presiding Bishop concludes:*

Some have insisted that these resolutions repudiate our relationships with other members of the Anglican Communion. My sense is that we have been very clear that we value our relationships within and around the Anglican Communion, and seek to deepen them. My sense as well is that we cannot do that without being honest about who and where we are. ... We are called by God to continue to wrestle with the circumstances in which we live and move and have our being, and to do it as carefully and faithfully as we are able, in companionship with those who disagree vehemently and agree wholeheartedly. It is only in the wrestling that we, like Jacob, can begin to discern the leading of the Spirit and the blessing of relationship with God.

Above all else, this convention claimed God’s mission as the heartbeat of the Episcopal Church. I encourage every member of this Church to enter into conversation in your own congregation or diocese about God’s mission and where you and your faith community are being invited to enter more deeply into caring for your neighbors, the “least of these” whom Jesus befriends.

The Most Rev. Katherine Jefferts Schori  
Presiding Bishop and Primate  
The Episcopal Church

Read Resolutions D025 and C056 on the web at <http://gc2009.org/ViewLegislation>.

Full text of the letters from Katherine Jefferts Schori, Peter James Lee, Shannon Johnston, and David Jones can be found on St. Stephen’s web site.

Dear Friends,

The most lasting impact of the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention is likely to be an increase of energy and initiative in local congregations and dioceses. The sharp budget cuts... will shift the mission to the local church ...

Local mission is also enhanced by resolutions ... incorrectly interpreted as necessarily damaging our worldwide relationship and as following the agenda of a gay and lesbian lobby. Instead, what the Convention did is to reaffirm that the ordination process is under the control of local bishops and dioceses, while stressing that access to the process is open to all baptized persons.

The convention also invited local churches and dioceses (as well as churches elsewhere in the Communion) to collect liturgical and theological resources regarding same-gender blessings. Recognizing the unique pastoral needs of those dioceses in jurisdictions where same-gender marriage or civil partnerships are legal, the convention affirmed that a generous pastoral response is needed.

The emphasis on the local did not deter the Convention from adopting both a denominational health plan for the whole church and a mandatory lay employees pension plan, both of which, in the long run, will strengthen the local church.

Faithfully yours,

The Rt. Rev. Peter James Lee, Bishop

*Bishop Johnston’s letter expresses his thoughts on D025 and C056 in detail. He concludes:*

Together you and I will explore what these resolutions mean more precisely to the Diocese of Virginia. I look forward to the way ahead, and I welcome your input. Most importantly, I treasure your company in the worship of our Lord Jesus Christ, I remain,

Faithfully yours,

The Rt. Rev. Shannon Johnston, Bishop Coadjutor

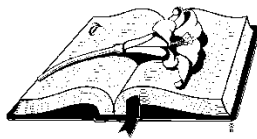
## BOOK CLUB NEWS

The book group has made the following selections for the coming months. Two classic novels, one bestseller mystery, an excursion into poetry and a study of successful people who don't fit the mold should entice you to join us on the third Tuesday of the month.

August 18 *The Citadel* by A. J. Cronin  
 September 15 *Stone's Fall* by Iain Pears  
 October 20 *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell  
 November 17 *Anthem* by Ayn Rand  
 December no meeting  
 January 19 *Discovering Poetry* by Frances Mayes

## THURSDAY NIGHT PROGRAMS

July 30 Sandy Kramer: Yoga, the Sun Salutation  
 Aug 6 Anne Freeman: "What do writing and prayer have in common?"  
 Aug 13 Meeting for vestry, social time for rest  
 Aug 20 The Rev. T.W. Morris: Mission of Dawn  
 Campus of the Virginia University of Lynchburg  
 Aug 27 Taize service  
 Sept 3 TBA  
 Sept 10 Meeting for vestry, social time for rest  
 Sept 17 TBA



## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

July 24 Barbara Tricarico  
 July 26 Susan Stubbs  
 August 5 Johna Jones  
 August 7 Herb and Evie Cox  
 August 7 Anne and Ron Silver  
 August 11 Bill Henson  
 August 21 Alice Hershiser  
 August 24 Phil Moore and Gary Chafin  
 August 27 Ted Hower  
 September 13 David Kirkpatrick  
 September 20 Elsie Tolnich  
 September 20 Susan and Joel Stubbs  
 September 25 Carl and Marlene Alexoff  
 September 26 Evelyn King  
 William Brent

## IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

### Ushers:

Aug 2, 9, 16, 23 Bill Kirby,  
 Aug 30 Dick Eager  
 Sept 6, 13, 20, 27 Phil Moore



### Altar Guild

Aug 2 Betty Whiteside  
 Aug 9 Suzanne Johnson  
 Aug 16 Dolly Rabelais  
 Aug 23 Suzanne Johnson  
 Aug 30 Lynn Hower  
 Sept 6 Leslie Hatch  
 Sept 13 TBA  
 Sept 20 TBA

### Eucharistic Ministers and Lesson Readers

Aug 2 Ellen Kirby (LEM), Mimi Stoner (L), Dolly Rabelais (P)  
 Aug 9 Rocco Tricarico (LEM), Kendal Lloyd (L), Marshall Lloyd (P)  
 Aug 16 Loretta Blakely (LEM), Evie Cox (L), Ted Hower (P)  
 Aug 23 Marshall Lloyd (LEM), Nancy Gates (L), Lea Tilbury (P)  
 Aug 30 Ellen Kirby (LEM), India Eguiguren (L), Amy Jones (P)  
 Sept 6 Lea Tilbury (LEM), Dawn Mahaffey(L), Sandra Kirkpatrick(P)  
 Sept 13 Rocco Tricarico (LEM), Ellen Kirby (L), Bill Kirby(P)  
 Sept 20 Marshall Lloyd (LEM), Anne Freeman(L), George Freeman(P)

### Coffee Hour Hosts

Aug 2 Bill and Ellen Kirby  
 Aug 9 Anne and George Freeman  
 Aug 16 Nancy and Phil Gates  
 Aug 23 Marshall Lloyd and Johnny Travis  
 Aug 30 Suzanne and Phil Johnson  
 Sept 6 Tom and Betsy Sue Scott  
 Sept 13 Amy Jones and Alice Hershiser  
 Sept 20 Scott Pierce and Reid Armstrong