

The Clarion

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April 2008

THE CHURCH OF SAINT CLEMENT

Episcopal + Alexandria, VA

The Rt. Rev. Peter James Lee
Twelfth Bishop of Virginia

The Rt. Rev. David Colin Jones
Suffragan Bishop

The Rev. John D. Hortum
Rector

Vestry
*Elsie Mosqueda
Martha Crawley
William DeVan
Annette Foster
Brenda Graves
Michael Gray
Frances Harbour
Dennis Hard
Vicki Hughes
Pat Jones
Lee Lavinder*

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A Message from the Senior Warden

Spring and Easter herald new beginnings for us here at St. Clement's. The flowers have begun to bloom in our Memorial Garden, the days are warmer and longer and we are spending more time outdoors, and our Day School children can spend their playtime outdoors planting new flowers, running, jumping and not confined to indoor activities in Marshall-Rutter Hall.

Whether it is Spring fever or a knowledge that we have much to accomplish in the months ahead our new Vestry is excited, energetic and looking forward to completing old projects and undertaking new ones. I am excited and looking forward to working with such a wonderful group of people.

In February our first meeting took the form of a retreat generously hosted by Father John and Leslie at their lovely home. With much congeniality and consensus Vestry members were able to have their first choice of ministries. The ministries and their respective Vestry members are as follows:

<i>Senior Warden</i>	<i>Elsie Mosqueda</i>	<i>Junior Warden</i>	<i>Mike Gray</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>William DeVan</i>	<i>Register</i>	<i>Pat Jones</i>
<i>Outreach</i>	<i>Annette Foster</i>	<i>Communication</i>	<i>Lee Lavinder</i>
<i>Hospitality</i>	<i>Martha Crawley</i>	<i>Evangelism</i>	<i>Dennis Hardy</i>
<i>Christian Ed</i>	<i>Vicki Hughes</i>	<i>Day School</i>	<i>Brenda Graves</i>
<i>Pastoral Care</i>	<i>Frances Harbour</i>	<i>Worship</i>	<i>John Hodges*</i>

*With the resignation of Richard Kidd, prior to our retreat, we were left with a vacancy and we are fortunate that John Hodges has volunteered, subsequent to the retreat, to serve on the vestry and lead the Worship Ministry.

We have some challenges ahead, but I can say with confidence that this Vestry is ready to meet those challenges. I look forward to working with the Vestry and with you in the coming year. The Vestry will meet its fiduciary responsibility and continue being true to our mission of sharing the love of God, spreading the word of God and serving the people of God. We are dedicated to continue reaching out to those most in need in our community. We also will continue to support our Day School which has become one of the finest pre-schools in Alexandria.

I look forward to serving as your Senior Warden again this year and encourage you to contact me via email or telephone anytime you have an issue or concern or if you just want to talk.

Elsie Mosqueda
Senior Warden

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UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

6 April	Books and the Bible
10 May	Life Line Mobile Health Screening at St. Clement
June	Shrinemont

DIRECTED GIVING WELCOME

Ever see something at St. Clements that needs to be fixed or improved upon? While St. Clements is wonderful, sometimes you might notice a small thing that could really make a difference. In recent months there have been several instances of "directed giving". These people saw something at the church they felt could be improved and gave time or money to make it happen.

If you would like to contribute to the church for a specific improvement, please mention it to Father John or any vestry member. We would love to recognize those that have contributed in the Clarion or you can choose to remain anonymous.

Health Screening at St. Clement in May

Life Line Mobile Health Screening services will be offered at Church of Saint Clement Episcopal Church 8AM-5:30PM May 10, 2008. Call 1-800-679-5192 for an appointment (pre-registration is required). Over 5 million people have participated in Life Line Screening's ultrasound tests for stroke caused by carotid artery disease, abdominal aortic aneurysms and other vascular diseases. Cardiovascular disease is the #1 killer in the United States of both men and women - and a leading cause of permanent disability.

Consider the statistics:

- Stroke is the number one cause of nursing home admission
- Stroke is the third leading cause of death in the United States

You may think that your physician would order these screenings if they were necessary. However, insurance companies typically will not pay for screenings unless a person has suffered symptoms. Unfortunately, **50% of stroke victims have no symptoms**. That is why having a Life Line Screening is so important to keep you and your loved ones healthy and independent.

I encourage you to talk to your physician about Life Line Screening. I am confident that he or she will agree with hundreds of hospitals that have partnered with Life Line Screening and suggest that you participate in this health event.

(Copied from Father John's letter sent to parish members)

Help Wanted

Photographs/Photographer: If you have any good pictures of recent events, please drop them off in the front office so that we can post them in MR Hall. If you would like to take pictures at future events, please submit your name to Lee Lavinder and he will put event organizers in touch with you.

Chalicers/Lay Readers: Please contact Frances Harbour if you would like to volunteer your time for either of these roles.

Birthdays in April

4/2
Sue McClemons
Rodney LeGrand

4/4
Don Borden
Bill Carter
John Doyle
Will Mirone

4/5
Asha Rodriguez

4/6
Ellen Rayner
Maria Jones

4/7
William Cleaver

4/12
Eve Mastromichalis
Annie Frye
Jane Byrne

4/14
Melise Blakeslee
Andrei Hortum
Joseph Funk

4/16
Ava Blakeslee-Carter

4/19
Diana Funk

4/21
Jennifer Ozawa

4/22
Virginia Nearing
Roxanne King
James Hughes

4/23
John Hortum
Ryan Calabria

4/23
Tod Carithers

4/27
Charles Howe
Robert White

4/28
Katherine Chrishon

4/29
Carin Carithers

4/30
Lauretta Hanlin
Ches Hatstat

CLARION SUBMISSIONS: Submissions for the Clarion should be made to Lee Lavinder either by email (lavinder_lee@yahoo.com) or by dropping it off in the church office.

Books and the Bible

The Books and the Bible group will begin reading the letter of Paul to the Ephesians on April 6, 2008. The name of the commentary to be used to accompany the Biblical text will be posted on the board in Marshall-Rutter Hall, as soon as it is selected. If you are interested in exploring the Bible and enjoying coffee on Saturday mornings from about 8:30 to 10 am, please come! For more information about this adult Christian education opportunity, please contact Martha Crawley at mc1092@verizon.net or ask Ruth Jackson after the 8 a.m. Sunday Service or Pat Stoffel, Jan Taylor, Caroline Johnston, or Marsha Bell after the 10 am service. All are welcome to come and learn and enjoy!

This year the Books and the Bible group has read a variety of fascinating works that have enriched its participants' understanding of scripture and the church. In September they started with Raymond Brown's *Christ of the Gospels of the Ordinary Sundays*, a guide to the lectionary for the "green" Sundays that was written for lay people. Dennis Maynard's *Those Episkopols* followed next, written by a parish priest to answer questions such as: "Does God like all that ritual?" "Can you believe anything you want and be an Episcopalian?"

Last year's reading of William Barclay's *Revelation* led the group to select its most challenging book, *The Apocalyptic Literature* by Professor Stephen Cook of the Virginia Theological Seminary. Although it wasn't easy, the group used his analysis to examine Ezekiel, Zechariah, Daniel, and other prophets and gain new understanding of these demanding sections of the Bible. Since it was not an easy read, they stopped at the end of the Old Testament, and will pick up the chapters on the New Testament at another time.

Books and the Bible is the oldest continuing adult Christian Education program at the Church of St. Clement. It was organized by parishioners in the late 1980s and has been meeting ever since. Some people come and stay for years, while others are interested only in one particular author or book, and are welcome to participate for however long they wish. All are welcome!