

The Clarion

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August 2007

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

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A Message from the Rector

Our vestry and I have been taking a look at our parish mission statement. We wanted to make sure that it is still a good ideal for us to plan for the fall and a time for listening and re-visioning for the future.

That statement is printed in our bulletin every Sunday; and, because you may not have looked at it lately. It says:

**We are a parish in mission to:
Spread the Word of God
Share the Love of God
Serve the People of God**

Our discernment has been that we see this sentence as a very good reflection of the way we see ourselves as a parish. But one thing did come out pretty fast in our discussion: We seem to be most challenged by the first statement, the one about spreading the Word of God.

Although there is no doubt that we are a parish who are steeped in Scriptural tradition and who love delving into the Bible in discussions and proclaiming the Word in church, there seems to be some hesitation about seeing ourselves as evangelists to a larger community. Perhaps we confuse this idea with a call to convert “the heathens” – something we may shrink from as sounding rather judgmental about our neighbors. I suggest we look at “the Word of God” as one of the names of Jesus in the Bible. The “spreading” part should remind us of how we have been called to scatter sacred seed by our attitudes and actions. This is a scattering that relies on the Lord completely. It is a rather gentle act of sowing in fields that the Holy Spirit has already prepared in the hearts of those we meet. This is a way of living poised to **Speak the Word of God not always with words** but with a confidence that the Lord will somehow use our faithfulness and sense of humor to make his kingdom more complete, to make his love better known. We may not see the results; but, like the loving, the effort is worth it in itself.



UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

- 7&8 Sep Opening weekend for thrift shop. Please hold donations until the last week of August.
- Sep September is St. Clement's month to collect non-perishable food for ALIVE! Suggested items are canned meats, fish or fruit and peanut butter and jelly. Donation baskets will be in Marshall-Rutter Hall. Another way to contribute is via check to ALIVE! which is used to purchase items from Capital Area Food Bank for only 15 cents/pound. Any questions can be directed to Linda or Mike Oliver (703-683-3547).
- Sep Sunday School for children ages 3 yrs 6 months through grade 6 will reopen in September
- Fall 07 The parish directory is being updated. If you have any corrections/changes from last year, send them to office@saintclement.org

Saint Clement Volunteer Opportunities

Birthdays in July

*7/1-Gerry Morris and Julie Fagan
7/2-David Hughes and Steve Brown
7/4-Edgar Cardwell
7/5-Margaret Milburn
7/7-Victoria Ziegler Vanya Hortum
7/9-John Hodges
7/10-Margee Eife
7/11-Wilma Dando
7/12-Beth Everett
7/13-Carolyn Long
7/16-Caroline Carver
7/17-Shirley Hicar and Rebecca Rosenbaum
7/19-Roy Prentice
7/20-Nancy Prentice
7/21- Ava Robinson
7/22-Ann Williams and Juliet Blakeslee-Carter
7/25-Harper Atherton
7/27-Janet Ziegler, Harry Williams, Juanita Black and Alexandria DeVan
7/28-Joan Schindel.*

If you would like to be a Coordinator of one of the Outreach activities below, please contact Annette Foster (703) 587-4042.

1. General Coordinator of the Saint Clement Overflow Shelter activity. The General Coordinator oversees the operation of the shelter, interfaces with the Carpenter's Shelter, recruits volunteers, raises money for the operation of the shelter, manages the budget, and directs volunteer efforts.

2. Coordinator of the Saint Clement Bag Lunch Program activity. The Coordinator works with the other bag lunch team volunteers to develop the schedule for each rotation and provides reminders to volunteers prior to each rotation. He or she is also the contact with St. Clement and Mead Memorial staff in the event that administrative issues arise. The program has had the same Coordinator for three years, and she is seeking an enthusiastic replacement. She promises an easy transition into a very fulfilling role!

3. Coordinator of the Saint Clement Carpenters Shelter activity. Coordinator responsibilities include: 1) Ensure two volunteers show up to serve and bring the main dish or salad with dressing and cookies. 2) Put a notice in the church bulletin whenever chicken casseroles are needed. 3) Handle reimbursement of money spent for food.

4. Coordinator of the Saint Clement Community Partners for Children (CPC) activity. CPC Coordinator works with CPC, advertises drives, and organizes volunteers. The program has had the same Coordinator for several years, and she is seeking an enthusiastic replacement. She promises an easy transition into a very fulfilling role!

Birthdays in August

*8/1-Pat Stoffel
8/3-Sharon Hodges and Samantha Fontenelle
8/11-Michael Gray and Daniel Ziegler
8/13-William DeVan
8/15-Liam DeVan, Mia Jones and Marcella LeGrand
8/16-Jack Carver
8/18-James Graves
8/19-Patrick Jones
8/20-Elizabeth Brake and Tammi DeVan
8/26-Larry McClemons
8/28-Oumar Ganame and Lorna LeGrand
8/29-Alex Gray*

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.