

# The Sentinel



## Priest's Ponderings

There is no direct drive from Bellevue to Murfreesboro, so heading to diocesan convention in January I had several choices:

- A route that was ½ city traffic and ½ interstate
- Another course that was 1/3 city traffic, 1/3 interstate, and 1/3 country roads
- A final route that was 1/3 city traffic and 2/3 interstate

I could go quickly, or at a slower scenic pace, or a combination of the two. Since I was in no hurry to arrive in Murfreesboro, and I traveled round trip for two days; I decided to test each route, and then for the ride home on the final day, I would take my favorite.

I found that the slower, country route was most enjoyable, though when I was younger, I probably would have taken the high speed courses.

In Epiphany we emphasize that we are on a magnificent journey called "Life." That is why the Wise Men are a central symbol for the season. They had a star to guide them, so God chose their travel itinerary. In our journey of life, God is sometimes very direct in his guidance, though other times he can be very subtle. On many occasions he leaves the driving to us, and that sometimes results in an on-time arrival at our destination or our getting stuck in a metaphorical ditch somewhere.

Our journeys vary, and each of us is headed to the same destination of eternal life with God while some are a bit closer and others have time to spare. The routes may not be the same, but the destination remains constant. The energy that propels us each day comes from our relationship with Jesus Christ, the power of the Holy Spirit, and our love for one another.

Epiphany reminds us that we know where we are headed in Life. Getting there is a mysterious challenge. God will guide us, even along routes we never imagined, and pulling us out of ditches when necessary.

RSC+

## **Saints of the Month - The Dorchester Chaplains in 1943: Lt George L. Fox (Methodist), Lt. Alexander D. Goode (Jewish), Lt. Clark V. Poling (Dutch Reformed), Lt. John P. Washington (Roman Catholic)**

Feast Day February 3 - On January 23, 1943 the Dorchester, a converted cruise ship, left New York City with a troop convoy for Greenland with 902 persons on board. Among those on board were four U.S. Army chaplains.

On February 3 a German U-Boat (i.e. submarine) fired torpedoes hitting the Dorchester resulting in the sinking of the ship. Although everyone was sleeping with their life jackets, in the confusion many soldiers left them behind when they went on deck. Only two of the lifeboats were successfully lowered. *(Continued on page 2)*

## Contents

Calendar .....	1
Priest's Ponderings .....	1
Saints of the Month .....	1
Laity Rota .....	2
Member Celebrations .....	2
Member of the Month .....	2
Quote of the Month .....	2
Saints of the Month .....	2
From the Loft .....	3
Ministries .....	3
Stretch & Strength Class.....	3
Vestry & Finance .....	3
Church Services .....	4
Contact Us .....	4
Diocese News .....	4

## Calendar

*Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>*  
Youth Group at 6:30 pm

*Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>*  
Vestry meeting at 6:30 pm

*Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>*  
Deadline for articles for next month's Sentinel

## Birthdays

Donna Powell ..... 4th  
 Matthew McFarland ..... 6th  
 Bryan Russell ..... 15th  
 OC Hays ..... 18th  
 George Womack ..... 19th

If we have failed to include your birthday this month, please let us know. Our list is continually evolving ☺

## Saints of the Month: *(continued from page 1)*

The four chaplains moved among the men keeping everyone calm, distributing lifejackets from the ship store, and gave up their personal lifejackets. Two hundred and thirty men who jumped into the nineteen degree ocean were rescued by other ships in the convoy, the chaplains remained on board and linked arms and prayed as the ship sank.

Many men survived because of the selflessness and heroism of the four chaplains. On the day that they died they personified the words of Jesus found in John 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."

## Member of the Month: *Cindy Reese*

My first exposure to the Episcopal Church was during my senior year in high school with a friend at St. John's in Old Hickory. As is often the case, when we found out we were going to be parents, Joe, my husband, and I felt a strong need to find a church home and become regular attendees. I expressed how much

*"The Church is the only society that exists for the benefit of those who are not its members."  
 Archbishop of Canterbury William Temple (1942-1944)*

## Lay Assignments

### 2nd:

Eucharistic: Jane Emery & David Gaines  
 Lector: Harry Spain  
 Crucifer: Joel Sinha  
 Ushers: Don Denning & Mike Deweese  
 Altar Guild: Karen Cate & Joan Wells  
 Coffee Hour: Gail McNally

### 9th:

Eucharistic: George Mickle & Cindy Reese  
 Lector: George Mickle  
 Crucifer: Jonathan Dupuy  
 Ushers: Rick Webb & George Womack  
 Altar Guild: Mary Elizabeth Womack & Betty Odom  
 Coffee Hour: The Emerys

### 16th:

Eucharistic: Tony McFarland, O.C. Hays, & Sarah Mace  
 Lector: Tony McFarland  
 Crucifer: Joel Sinha  
 Ushers: Pete Mace & Joe Reese  
 Altar Guild: Sandra Womack & Janet Deweese  
 Coffee Hour: Tony McFarland

### 23rd:

Eucharistic: Rick & Cindy Webb  
 Lector: David Gaines  
 Crucifer: Jonathan Dupuy  
 Ushers: Don Denning & Mike Deweese  
 Altar Guild: Cindi Spain & Judy Stewart  
 Coffee Hour: The Reeses

that visit impressed me and we checked out the Episcopal faith.

St. James the Less felt like home on our first visit and we began attending in December of 1979. I was baptized in February of 1980. I always told my daughter, Leigh, she was baptized twice as I was 3 months pregnant with her at the time. Joe and I were both confirmed and became members. Leigh and Lisa came along and were baptized and confirmed.

I have had several turns at the Vestry and I am a former Junior Warden. My involvement with Outreach "happened" more than it was an intentional plan. Several years after joining, I did some volunteer church office work when the girls were small. My discussions with then vicar George Yandell gave rise to my concern of meeting basic human needs of food, clothing, and shelter. I strongly felt that no one should ever be hungry or denied that most basic human need. It began in the early 80's with me gathering a few retired members together to pack 50 emergency food boxes for Second Harvest in the basement of Howard School in Nashville several times a month. From there our church evolved into a rotation with other churches to feed the homeless soup and sandwiches in the basement of Christ Church. As the need grew, we evolved to making sack lunches and handing them out to the homeless in the cafeteria of Hume Fogg High School. When insurance became an issue, we took our sack lunch program to the Campus for Human Development. Our congregation made sack lunches to feed 150+ homeless people at the height of that program. As that program grew, we took our program inside and provided a hot lunch several times a year to residents at the facility. As the Campus has grown, the food program is now able to take care of the residents there and also at Room in the Inn.

Although our core outreach direction has been aimed at providing the basic human need of food, we have done numerous other outreach projects. I am so blessed to be part of our caring parish that has touched many lives over the 33 years since I first walked through the doors of St. James the Less.

### **From The Loft**

In preparing my remarks for the February Newsletter, there were 2 things I especially wanted to include (the scripture references included say it best):

I wanted to thank the congregation for singing along with the choir on the recent offertories.

Psalm 92: 1 - It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High.

I wanted to recruit instrumental players for our Easter Sunday Service.

Psalm 150: 3-4 - Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp, praise him with stringed instruments and organs.

As always we are looking for new choir members. Lent and Easter are not far away. Interested parties may contact me by e-mail at glish@bellsouth.net or call 615-868-9783 for information.

As always, our thanks and appreciation to the choir for their participation and support.

In His Service,  
Genevieve Lish, Organist/Choir Director

### **Stretch & Strength Class**

This February, Sarah Mace is offering her cure for the February blahs. Every Tuesday, starting on Feb. 4th, at 10:00 am she will be leading a gentle stretch and strength class at St. James the Less. The workout employs movement informed by Sarah's background in ballet and modern dance. After dancing professionally in New York, Sarah earned an MFA in Dance at Florida State University. She was Professor of Dance at University of Louisiana for 20 years before retiring to Nashville. Come join the fun.....and bring a friend!

### **Vestry Notes from December**

- Voted to install a burglary sensor on the new A/C and furnace unit
- Decided against changing alarm companies
- Discussed placement of the Columbarium at the rear of the nave and deferred to the Columbarium Committee for further action
- Discussed regular maintenance repairs: back flow valve, carpet by the altar, restrooms
- Approved Father Courtney's Pastoral Care Plan for 2014
- Discussed Evangelism tactics and programs
- Discussed Diocesan Convention and programs
- Elected new Vestry Officers

	Financial Update	
	Year Ending 2013	
Income		124,656
Expenses		111,768
Net		\$12,888

For more information, see Jim Cate, Treasurer.

### **2014 Vestry**

- Rick Webb .....Sr. Warden
- Harry Spain .....Jr. Warden
- Jim Cate .....Treasurer
- Dari Shadwick .....Secretary
- Ken Saefkow .....Communications
- Joan Wells .....Evangelism
- Joel Sinha .....Youth

### **Ministries**

#### *Room in the Inn*

The current donation through the end of February for Room in the Inn is large bags of cough drops, hand warmers and long underwear: XL to 3XL. Drop off is outside of Father Courtney's office. Kudos to all for their faithfulness and generosity!

#### *Youth Ministry*

Teenagers and middle schoolers join Father Courtney for dinner and discussion on the second Saturday of each month at 6:30 pm. In February we shall meet at Sal's Pizza on Stewarts Ferry Pike and talk about focusing and meditating. Afterwards, we can go by the pharmacy and pick up our prescriptions for Adderall.

Elementary schoolers join us each Sunday at 10:30 am. This month will lean about Jesus helping fishermen, calming a stormy sea, and witness other lessons from Jesus in the Gospel according to Luke.

#### *Community Grief Group*

Grief Group meets Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. Flyers are available in the front hallway if you know of anyone who could benefit from learning more of the group process.

#### *Taekwondo Theme*

Perseverance - "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again!" We are all familiar with this popular expression that demonstrates the spirit of perseverance. Life is a series of challenges and, frequently, we face obstacles in the path to our goals. We must patiently face these obstacles with a positive mental attitude, not seeing them as problems but as God's challenges to be met and surpassed on the road to blessings of achievement.

**Contact Us**

St. James the Less Episcopal Church  
411 West Due West Avenue  
Madison TN 37075  
Phone: 615.865.4496  
Website: [www.stjamesmadison.net](http://www.stjamesmadison.net)  
Priest-in-Charge: Father Robin Courtney

**Church Schedule**

*Sunday*

Holy Eucharist – 8:00 AM  
Adult Sunday School – 9:30 AM  
Choral Holy Eucharist – 10:30 AM  
Elementary Education – 10:30 AM

*Tuesday*

Strength and Stretch – 10:00 AM

*Wednesday*

Grief Group – 6:30 PM  
Choir Practice – 7:00 PM

*Monday & Thursday*

Community Taekwondo – 5:00 PM

**St. James the Less**

*Episcopal Church*

411 West Due West Avenue  
Madison, TN 37115

**News from the Diocese of Tennessee**

“Open, Obedient, Responsive, Committed”

These four words describe the mission and ministry of the Diocese of Tennessee:

The Diocese of Tennessee is “Open... to the power of God. When we gather, we expect God to show up, and to do mighty things in our midst.”

The Diocese of Tennessee is “Obedient... to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, who said, ‘Go... and make disciples of all nations, baptizing... and teaching them’ (Matt. 28:19-20); and ‘Go... and proclaim the good news to the whole creation’ (Mk 16:15).”

The Diocese of Tennessee is “Responsive to the needs of the world, because God created this world, and Jesus gave his life for it upon the cross.”

The Diocese of Tennessee is “Committed to our life together as a Christian community for the sake of the life of the world.”



---

---

---

---