

Mark Your Calendar

April 4 - 6

New Beginnings
at Honey Creek
7th thru 9th graders

April 28 - 29

BDS Architects
interview for
master plan

May 1

Ascension Day
Men in Blue
Bar-B-Q
6 p.m. service
followed by
dinner

May 15 - 18

Cursillo
Honey Creek

THE GREAT FIFTY DAYS OF EASTER

The Easter Season, fifty days of celebration, begins with the Easter Vigil in the pre-dawn darkness of Easter Day, the lighting of the new flame and the Paschal Candle, and the proclamation "Alleluia, Christ is Risen." That is the central moment in the life of the Christian tradition, the life of the Church as the Body of Christ. All that is old, all darkness, is displaced by the light of knowledge of the love of God, a love so great that even death cannot withstand it. The Church prepares for that moment in the three prior days, the Sacred Triduum.

On Maundy Thursday we speak of Our Lord's Last Supper with His Disciples, sharing the bread and wine and the washing of feet with those closest to Him. The sanctuary is stripped of all adornment as Our Lord departs for the Garden of Gethsemane, to His arrest and trial. On Good Friday we hear again of His Crucifixion and entombment and then on Holy Saturday we wait quietly. Our Lord is in the tomb. All light and color and music return on Easter Day, the Feast of the Resurrection. In the fifty days that follow we hear again of Our Lord's Resurrection appearances to His own teaching them, preparing them to be His witness to the "Ends of the Earth." On the fiftieth day, the Feast of Pentecost, we hear of the descent of the Holy Spirit, empowering those Disciples to do the work for which Our Lord has prepared them. The Church is born; our Church, our Parish family are the embodiment of the message of Easter today. Come and take part in it all.



With Easter Blessings,

Peter+

The Altar Guild at Christ Church



Lougenia Gabard (l) and
Judy DeMott



Front row l. to r.: Katie Schutt, Diane Corker, Julia Ariail, Meredith Kunath, and Judy DeMott, Second Row: Sally Nunn, Patricia Marks, Lougenia Gabard, Sarah Parrish, Debbie Saegar, and Tar Drazdowski

For over 20 years Judy DeMott, leader of the Christ Church Valdosta altar guild, has

served God on the altar guild as her ministry. She describes the commitment as "setting the table for our Lord."

Though there are many duties associated with the job, Judy enjoys the fellowship with other church members while working on projects. Some team members use their cleaning times as an opportunity to be quiet and at peace praying in God's house.

There are currently five altar guild teams with six or seven members each and approximately thirty-two total members. The schedule rotates from one team to the next throughout the year except at Christmas when the rotation is for individual services. Usually each team sets up and cleans up for each service for one week, laundering the linens used during that week and re-arranging the flowers on Thursday to take to shut-ins or hospitalized church members.

Christmas and Easter are very special times in the church calendar. The altar guild works as a group to decorate Christ Church with flowers and candles so that the church is specially festive for these occasions.

Lougenia Gabard has served on the altar guild since 1957 when she

came to Valdosta and joined Christ Church. For over 50 years she has given her time and talents to work to make our church clean and beautiful.

Many years ago the Christian Education Director Pam Guice encouraged all the church members to take the Myers-Briggs type indicator test. Afterward in Sunday School for three months, she described the different personality types and what talents each had to give to God.

"At the time of those classes," said Julia Ariail, "I had very little money, but I wanted very much to give my tithe to God. Pam taught me that I could give my talents as part of my gift. I joined the altar guild and began arranging the flowers when my team was on duty. It gave me so much pleasure to thank God in this way. It still does."

Join the altar guild by calling Judy DeMott at 242-4104.

Christ Episcopal Church

The Rt. Rev. Henry I. Louttit,
Bishop of Georgia

The Rev. Peter Ingeman, Rector
The Rev. Tar Drazdowski, Priest
in Residence

Stella Clark, Deacon
Patricia Marks, Deacon
Molly Greneker, Parish Secretary
Amy Creasy, Bookkeeper

Sue Ellen Rumstay, Organist
Kathy Armstrong, St. Gregory
Choir Director
Dr. John Curtis and Maggie Roberts,
St. Francis Choir Leaders
Julia and Julius Ariail, Newsletter

Vestry

Mimi Allen	Sandra Fletcher
Hugh Bailey	Phyllis Holland
Clinton Beeland	Pepi Nelson
Charles Boatwright	Bill Nunn
Tom Carroll	Buddy Pitts
Jan Carter	Joe Singletary
Carolyn Eager	Al Turner
	Sylvia Warrick

Phone Numbers

Church Office	242-5115
The Rev. Ingeman	245-0799
The Rev. Drazdowski	249-0895
Deacon Clark	559-6159
Deacon Marks	244-5159
Molly Greneker	292-8215

www.christchurchvaldosta.org

Words for Easter

Salvation

Resurrection

Ascension

Make a Joyful Noise!

by Kathy Armstrong



Kathy Armstrong, St. Gregory Choir Director, and Sue Ellen Rumstay, Organist

"Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing."
Psalm 100:2

When I first came to Christ Church, it was difficult for me to learn some of the hymns. They were different from the singable melodies I grew up with in the Methodist Church.

At the time, Father Henry Louttit was rector, and he was choosing the hymns that would be sung every week. I soon learned that he felt it

was important that the congregation be exposed to ALL of the music in the hymnal. In the same breath, I was told that he did not sing because as a child, someone told him that he couldn't sing. The music he loved was held inside because somebody said that it was not good enough to share!

My first reaction as a music teacher is "shame on the person who told him he could not sing." I believe that there is a song in the heart of every one of us, and some just never learned to let it out. As many times as the Bible refers to our worship through singing, I am sure that as we express our devotion to a loving God through music, He is pleased.

Not one of us is worthy of the love of our Heavenly Father. Nothing we can do will ever earn that love. And no matter how beautifully we sing, our voices will never measure up to a standard of perfection.

So, we make mistakes in life. God wants us to live and love Him as best we can. It's not a matter of how well we sing, it's just important that we sing! He will love us whether or not we sing on key.

Being a part of the choir requires a commitment...to the choir, to the church, but most of all, to God. Please prayerfully consider joining us. We need your voice.

The Men In Blue



The Men in Blue, a men's group who enjoy fellowship, fun, and feeding the Church, cooked fish, hushpuppies, and sausage Wednesday, March 12. The group also cooks for other church occasions, such as the Dominican Republic fundraiser. Organized in 1994, this group welcomes new members. Contact Dave Clark at 559-6159 or John Hiers at 244-5942 for information on upcoming events.

Photos: 1. Dave Clark (l) and Griff Holland 2. Hulyn Smith, center, Jerry DeMott (r) and Dave Clark (l) 3. The feast is on the table. (l to r) Sylvia Warrick, Laura Paine, Stephen Sandbach, and David Schert.



Cursillo in Christianity

Interested? The next Cursillo is scheduled for May 15 through 18 at Honey Creek.

For additional information visit the Diocesan Web site at:
<<http://www.geocities.com/gacursillo/main.html>>
or contact Father Ingeman or Sandy Sandbach



Special Days Remembered in April

BIRTHDAYS

1 Sallyann King
2 Cecilia Carroll
Mallory Lind
4 Leanne Balanis
5 Pierce Baker
Jan Carter
Lee Page
6 April Cox
Lilyan Miller
7 Tal Barnidge
8 Cindy Waters
10 Edward Preston
12 Sis May
13 Jake Adams
Elizabeth Armstrong
15 Bobbie Ann Mitchell
16 Joel Williams
17 Lucy Tomberlin
18 Jane Ferrell
19 Thomas Greneker
20 Cathy Hanson
Sue Ellen Rumstay
22 Happy Ingeman

23 Allan Dear
Carter Elliott
Thurman Larsen
Summer Warrick
24 Allan Canup
Patricia Greneker
Tristan Guice
Anne Singletary
25 Annie Reid
Jennifer Singleton
30 Connor Mitchell
Kathleen Parmelee
Elise Sandbach

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

17 Dave & Stella Clark
18 Dane & Shelia Turner
19 Bill & Sally Querin
20 Dan & Lee Phillips
28 Pat & Curt Grieve

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

2 Sparky Greneker
3 Michael Bajalia
Nicole Bajalia
Mitchell Beeland
4 Joe Tomberlin
5 Jan Carter
Joan Dear
Richard Saeger
6 Brandon Jackson
7 Carolyn Eager
John Kunath
8 Meredith Kunath
9 Anne Campbell
Matilda Stubbs
Sylvia Warrick
10 Brian Nelson
Steve Roberts
12 Susie Kaiser
Sue Ellen Rumstay
13 Robert Church
Lonnie Lacy
John Roberts
Keith Tucker

15 Jessie Querin
Sue Sandbach
17 Will Armstrong
Anna Coggins
Janet Dickman
18 Merrill Guice
19 William Bajalia
Lauren Cloud
Greg Harbin
Jordon Jackson
20 Olivia Nunn
Brooklyn Prine
22 Nicole Bajalia
Leslie Cloud
23 David Carter, Jr.
Madison Jackson
25 Trent Marshall
Caroline Prine
Greg Prine
28 Pat Tudor

If your special day is not included in our calendar, please call the church office at 242-5115 to let us know.

Vestry Report from the February Meeting

- Received report from Junior Warden that Louttit Hall has been pressure washed, treated for insects, and cleaned on the inside. Two more rooms have been opened upstairs and are available for classes or meetings.
- Voted to establish a contract with Barganier Davis Sims Architects Associates to conduct congregation interviews and provide drawings for a master space plan for the church.
- Received report on Diocesan Convention and the election of Molly Greneker to the General Convention on the first ballot.



Pepi Nelson, Senior Warden and Clint Beeland, Junior Warden

- Molly was also elected to the Standing Committee.
- Discussed the 2009 retirement of Bishop Henry Louttit as announced at Diocesan Convention.

- Reviewed activities and programs for the months of February and March.
- Received reports from the Reverend Drazdowski regarding a meeting with LAMP and plans for the 2008 mission trip to the Dominican Republic. Approved membership in LAMP for 2008.
- Received report from Deacon Marks on the Deacon School and her recent work at Ashley House.
- Received report from Beth Baker regarding youth program activities planned for February and March.

The Dominican Republic Trip - June 14 - 21, 2008



Led by the Reverend Tar Drazdowski, the fifth Christ Church Valdosta trip to the Dominican Republic will be June 14 through 21, 2008. This year's projects include beginning construction on a cottage for teachers, teaching Bible school to approximately 150 children, and teaching knitting projects.

"This is a ministry of presence," said Tar Drazdowski who has led the mission group all five years. "We come back every year because we care. We are there to serve God. We are Christians side by side," she said.

During the past four trips to the Camp in Haraboca, Dominican Republic, the Rev. Meguelina Espinal coordinated the island work.

Year One - 2004 - Built a laundry room for a donated washer and dryer, held Bible study for 350 children.

Year Two - 2005 - Built the foundation for the church using

block construction, taught knitting classes and Bible study.

Year Three - 2006 - Completed construction on church holding first service, began construction on school, held Bible study and taught knitting classes.

Year Four - 2007 - Constructed a playground for the school, taught knitting classes and held Bible classes for children.

Last year a total of 14 people went on the trip. The Rev. Drazdowski, Juanita Quinn, Mimi Allen, Stephani Carroll, Beth Baker, Jim Drazdowski, and Andy Drazdowski were joined by others from Trinity Statesboro and the Church of the Holy Nativity in Dothan, Alabama.

Juanita Quinn has taught five or six knitting projects in the last three years. The Rev. Espinal reports that the women are now making hats and scarves and selling them successfully making money to help feed their families.

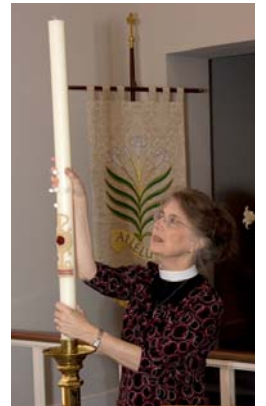
What do they need this year?

- People to go on the trip especially medical personnel, Spanish speakers, knitters and anyone with a serving heart
- Financial support for scholarships. It costs \$540 for an airline ticket, \$200 for work fee, and \$245 for lodging, \$125 a month for teachers salaries, many dollars for materials for construction and Bible studies.

"It is a life changing experience," said the Rev. Drazdowski. "We plan what we want to accomplish, but the most important thing is to be there, to do what they need done and to pray with them. We have a relationship," she concluded.



Holy Week 2008



Around the Parish

Thank You

Thank you for all the prayers, cards and blessings I received from church friends two years ago during my bout with Leukemia and Cellulitis. My last test was all clear, and I have no trace of any problems. I count my blessings daily and credit Christ Church friends, Joan Dear and the Holy Spirit for my full recovery. Allan Dear

Dear sweet Valentine friends at Christ Church,

Thank you so much for the lovely Valentine. You must be a little like a secret Santa. I did not know whom to thank, but it was such a dear thing to do. I appreciate your thinking of me.

Carolyn Eager



HOG WILD FOR VBS

Vacation Bible School dates are set for June 1 - 4! Mark your calendar. The theme is "The SonHarvest," a county fair theme with the Fruits of the Spirit as the Biblical component. If anyone has any county fair ideas, please e-mail them to Beth (bethbaker@bellsouth.net) or leave a note in the office. Please volunteer to help. The first organizational meeting will be held on April 7th at 5:30 p.m. in the parish hall! Be there to chose your job, share ideas, and pick up materials to make this a great event.

Workshop and Social

"Reaching the Heart of Your Child - The Why, When, and How of Biblical Discipline," Sunday, April 13th from 3 to 5 p.m. at the home of Tina Nunn. Sign up in the parish hall, and you will find interesting information, maps, and inspiration!

If you were unable to attend the first meeting, please try to make it to this one! We had a wonderful time and learned many new disciplining techniques that are Christ centered. You'll have a ball!

Beth Baker

Relay For Life

Relay For Life materials are in the parish hall. If this sounds like an event that might be close to your heart, please stop by the round RELAY table and pick up the RFL handouts, registration sheets and other resources. The event is May 2 and 3 at the Valdosta Junior High School track.

Christ Church Youth

Christ Church youth have been working hard during the Lenten season to raise money for the Episcopal Youth and Children Services (EYCS). This program supports the Episcopal children from our Diocese with educational scholarships, medical and dental help as well as camp scholarships. In 2007, EYCS granted 29 tuition grants totaling \$52,850. They also helped 16 youngsters attend camp at Honey Creek, our diocesan camp and conference center, at a cost of \$5,364.50.

In April, our kids will be doing community service for LAMP. If anyone would like to join us, please contact Beth or leave a message in the church office.



The Vineyard On the Web

The Vineyard is posted to the Christ Church Valdosta Web site in color at <www.christchurchvaldosta.org> . Double click *The Vineyard* tab to view this publication.

The Vineyard Deadline

The newsletter deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Send information to <juliacariail@bellsouth.net> or phone 229-559-7329.

Errata

Boots Tudor, faithful usher at the 8:00 a.m. service, was inadvertently omitted from the article about ushers in the March 2008 edition.



April 28th and 29th

Barganier Davis Sims Architects & Associates will be at Christ Church to begin the interview process for master planning our church. More specific information will be coming out in the next several weeks, and the heads of each of our ministries will be contacted for scheduling interviews. Please mark your calendars.

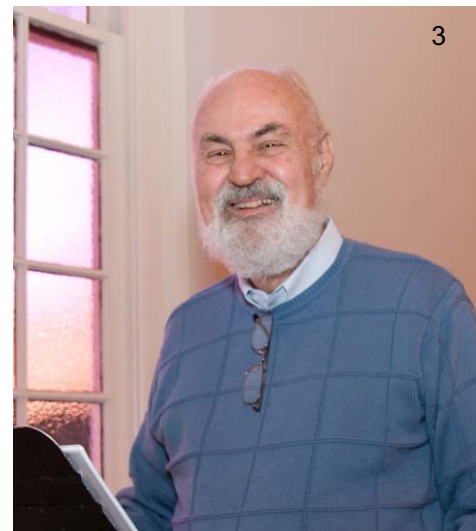
The St. Francis Choir at the 11:30 a.m. Sunday Service

The St. Francis Choir leads the music of the 11:30 Sunday service with a blend of traditional and contemporary styles from the hymnbook and the Caritas songbook. Some of the music was written by our own church members. Keyboard, flutes, guitar, bassoon, and recorders accompany the singers in leading congregational singing. Recent growth of the choir reflects the general growth of the 11:30 service.

The St. Francis choir is eager to welcome additional vocalists and

instrumentalists willing to sing and play to the glory of the Lord. The group practices on Monday evenings at 7 p.m.

The group is in the process of revising and enlarging the Caritas music book used in the service. Share a list of your favorite Christian music as well as suggestions for new music from camp, Cursillo, or other sources with the choir members. Choir leaders are Bud Curtis, Maggie Roberts, and Karen Gunter.



3

Photos: 1. Phyllis Hiers, recorder player and music librarian 2. David Schert, guitarist
3. Bud Curtis, recorder player and choir leader 4. Maggie Roberts, keyboard and choir leader



1



2



4

Join us for Regular Services

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion

9:30 a.m. Holy Communion*

10:45 a.m. Christian Education*

11:30 a.m. Holy Communion*

6:00 p.m. Vespers

Tuesday: 10:30 a.m. @ Langdale Place

Wednesday: 6:00 p.m.*

Thursday: 7:00 a.m.

*Nursery Available

Christ Episcopal Church
1521 N. Patterson Street • Valdosta, GA 31602

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