

**AM
2007**

Elections by Acclamation Highlight 2007 Annual Meeting

On Sunday, May 6, 60 voting members of the parish elected new Wardens and Vestry members, created the voting position of Clerk, and heard the state of the parish from its leadership, at St. Stephen's 2007 Annual Meeting.

The first order of business was a proposed change to the bylaws to allow a voting Clerk to replace the non-voting register as chief

scribe for Vestry meetings. The change was approved, and Jessica Baumgarten was elected Clerk, which is a single-year renewable term.

Jane Bishop was elected the new Senior Warden. Cam Crockett was elected Junior Warden.

Diane Aten, Paul Bugala, Beth Howe, and William MacKaye were elected to the Vestry by acclamation. The biblical method of casting lots was used to choose the length of terms, with Paul Bugala receiving the one year term, and the other candidates three year terms.

Our treasurer, Harry Leich, reported that our annual budget is now greater than \$600,000, with 41% of our income coming from parishioners. Our largest expenditure is personnel. We're meeting the challenge posed by the leaving of the Washington Free Clinic, a

major space user for decades, by implementing a plan to renovate the space.

In her report, outgoing Senior Warden Fern Hunt commented on her two

year's tenure, pointing out the many indicators of "enough faith, talent, enthusiasm and yes, energy, with God's help" to thrive as a parish. Jane Bishop, Junior Warden for the last two years, echoed this message, declaring that God

Election Results

Sr. Warden: **Jane Bishop**
Jr. Warden: **Cam Crockett**
Clerk: **Jessica Baumgarten**
Vestry: **Diane Aten, Paul Bugala, Beth Howe, Bill MacKaye**

(The vestry also includes continuing members Doris Collie, Louise Dyer, Susan Kyle, Jean Langhorne, and George Frederick Thomas)

leads, we follow, and our prayers are answered.

Frank Dunn's report included praise for both Wardens, with affirmation of how rich the past three years have been since he joined as Senior Priest. He pointed out the quality of honesty in parish life, and the extraordinary commitment of parishioners to take care of one another pastorally. Mark Vogel also received appreciative words and gratitude from the parish.

The meeting closed with a thank you from Michael Sherrard on behalf of St. Stephen's WIN team. Our participation in Washington Interfaith Network has grown while WIN has a growing impact on the priorities of city policies, with affordable housing high on the agenda of the new mayor.

-Jane Lincoln, Register

**B
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May 13, 2007

The Sixth
Sunday of
Easter

Number 1574

ASCENSION DAY

THURSDAY, MAY 17

HOLY EUCHARIST

8AM

FORUM

•May 13 and 20: "The Politics of the Bible"

•May 27: St. Brigid's Threaders

Forum meets every Sunday at 9:15am (prompt!)

BREAD

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Music Director Mark Vogel Announces His Departure

Mark Vogel has announced that he will be leaving St. Stephen's this summer to take a position as Director of Music and Arts at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax in Oakton, Virginia.

Mark is very sad to be leaving, but is excited about this new opportunity. His new post at UUCF is a full-time position and will begin in August. He is excited to be collaborating with Rev. Mary Katherine Morn, who he previously worked with at Universalist National Memorial Church.

In his new role, he will head a robust music and arts program, including: directing a large adult choir and two children's choirs; running a concert series; and helping to lead a monthly vespers service featuring readings paired with special music.

Mark first came to St. Stephen's in the fall of 2005 and has truly enjoyed working with, and getting to know the wonderful community here.

Mark will be with us through July 15. We will soon begin the process of selecting and hiring a new music director.

Mark Has Been Greatly Appreciated by the Choir

Inspiring, nurturing, encouraging, supportive, talented, conscientious, dedicated, organized, and prayerful are some of the descriptions of St. Stephen's Director of Music Mark Vogel. One can well understand then, the sense of remorse and disappointment among the choir when they first heard from Mark that he had accepted an offer from another church to become their Director of Music. Many of us in the choir felt that in Mark, we had finally found a conductor who understood us, inspired us, appreciated us, and who got the best from us ... consistently (which believe me, is no easy matter)! It is with a great deal of sadness that we will say goodbye when he departs this summer.

For the past decade, St. Stephen's has been a bit of a revolving door for choir directors. For many of us in the choir, this has been a trying time that has taken a toll on our energy, enthusiasm and psyche. I believe, however, that under Mark, the choir has arrived at a level of comfort and ease which, given this history, was not easy for him to

achieve. But I think it helps explain our sentiments.

Mark succeeded by effectively managing the myriad personalities of the choir, and by being extremely well organized—his color-coded bundles of music for Holy Week was masterful. His habit of beginning rehearsals with a reflection on whom the choir would like to pray or sing for set a prayerful tone for which I am not alone in appreciating. Musically, he accepted what the choir was capable of doing, but he challenged it to improve. His efforts to get the choir to work on dynamics and shaping phrases to make music rather than just to sing songs has, in the words of one choir member, "caused us to retire the old motto: *Semper Crescendo!*"

Mark came to St. Stephen's more an accomplished pianist and accompanist than conductor, and we have been blessed with some remarkable keyboard playing. Commenting on his impending departure, another choir member lamented: "I'll miss his preludes and postludes ... no Ravel for us for a

WORSHIP

at St. Stephen's

Sundays

8:00a—

Holy Eucharist,
Rite I

10:30a—

Holy Eucharist,
Rite II with
Children's
Spiritual
Formation

5:00pm—

Misa en Español

Celebrants and
Preachers

5/13: The Rev.
Frank Dunn,
Celebrant;
Fletcher Wells,
Preacher

5/20: The Rev.
Frank Dunn

while, I'm guessing". But over the two years of his working with us and learning from us, we have seen him develop a level of confidence, an understanding of Episcopal liturgy, and a directorial style which has been reflected in our performance as a choir. Judging by the applause from a traditionally reticent congregation, and numerous commentaries, the results have been appreciated.

Fletcher Wells Finishes Term as Seminarian

For the last two years, Fletcher Wells has been our "seminarian"—a standard assignment for seminary students who plan to be ordained. But things are about to change:

- Sunday, May 13: Fletcher's last Sunday at St. Stephen's.
- Saturday, June 16: Fletcher is ordained a deacon at Washington National Cathedral, 10:30 AM. The whole parish is invited. (His ordina-

Many congregants have noted that Mark has elicited some of the best performances out of the choir in many years. Unfortunately, St. Stephen's has him for only a couple more months, so please enjoy him while we still have him. We in the choir are already missing him.

-Nigel Collie

tion to the priesthood comes at the end of the year).

- July 1, 2007: Fletcher begins work at St. George's Episcopal Church, Fredericksburg, VA. Fletcher will be their Assistant for Outreach and Youth Ministries.
- Next issue of BREAD: more about Fletcher as he concludes his time with us.

-Kim Klein

From Our Mailbox

I want to thank you folks at your church, which I attended in the late '50s and early '60s when I was a student at Virginia Theological Seminary and later working as the intake officer and adult counselor for the Fairfax County Juvenile and domestic relations court until 1967.

"Your former priest, Bill Wendt, and I met when he was the chaplain for a group of volunteers who flew to London the summer of 1957. We were assigned to various places all over London (church and youth clubs). There were many vacant lots in my assignment in East London where ship docks and factories had been destroyed by German bombing during World War II. I pray that we here in the U.S. never have to

go through what London suffered.

"The purpose of this letter is to thank your church for all St. Stephen's has meant to me over the years. I have received BREAD for as long as I can recall, and for this I am most grateful.

"My doctor says that I have that awful curse of a disease called Alzheimer's. I just wanted to thank you for keeping me on your mailing list all these years. You helped cure many a sin of mine of which I was not aware. God bless you all!"

-C. Ruel Ewing

Bucks for the Hungry Reminder

Every third Sunday, you'll find in your bulletin a pink "bucks for the hungry" envelope; please put a buck in, which will go to the Diocesan Hunger Fund.

LECTIONS

6th Sunday of

Easter
(April 15)

Acts 16:9-15

Psalms 67

Revelation 21:

10, 22-22:5

John 5:1-9

7th Sunday of

Easter
(April 22)

Acts 16:16-34

Psalms 97

Rev. 22:12-14,

16-17, 20-21

John 17:20-26

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to Leave

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Wells
Finishes as
Seminarian

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THE SAINTS

Sunday, May 13

Birthday: Michele Lewis

Heavenly Birthday: James

Phillip, 2004

Wednesday, May 16

Birthday: Nick Spears

Saturday, May 19

DUNSTAN, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY,
988

Sunday, May 20

Birthday: Ernie Jackson

Monday, May 21

Birthday: Lisa Veneklasen

Heavenly Birthday: Benjamin

Blackman, 1997

Thursday, May 24

JACKSON KEMPER, FIRST MISSIONARY
BISHOP IN THE UNITED STATES, 1870

Friday, May 25

BEDE, THE VENERABLE, PRIEST, AND
MONK OF JARROW, 35

Saturday, May 26

AUGUSTINE, FIRST ARCHBISHOP OF
CANTERBURY, 605

Heavenly Birthday: Hazel

Shecut, 2005

Sunday, May 27

Birthday: Tom Bell

Heavenly Birthday: Carl

Zanner, 1985

THE PRAYERS

Here's who we've been praying for recently:

•Patricia Davis-Muffett and Carroll Muffett, Michelle Sinkgraven and Cosby Hunt, Lisa Goodwin and Stephen Varol, and Carla and Bryan Crocheron, who are expecting babies;

•Ridgely Bennett, Terrey Danley, René Holloway, Leota Lawrence, and all who desire to be restored to health; those who are home-bound; and all who care for aging relatives, the sick and the homebound;

•Duane Bonds, Helen Bonds (mother of Duane), the Brown family, Carol Ann Mericle (mother of Patricia Davis-Muffett), Louis Newton (step-Dad of Gretchen McMullen), Tom Rozzell (father of Liane), Fletcher Wells (our seminarian, in the last weeks of his seminary education), and all those who have been commended to our prayers.

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