## BREAD

\* BREAD \* BREAD \* BREAD \* BREAD \* BREAD \* BREAD \* BREAD \* BREAD \* BREAD \* BREAD BREAD \* \* BREAD First of a Series of Mind-Massages

On November 24, 1968, St. Stephen's published the first issue of **BREAD**.

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For decades, BREAD was produced weekly; now it is bi-weekly.

The 1,700-and-counting issues of BREAD capture the mundane and the significant.

Can This Marriage Be Saved? LERGY AND ALTAR GUILD ARE TAKING EACH OTHER'S MEASURES This Sunday bunch of middle class women, raditionalists, who overvalue STUDENT LITURGISTS ir importance. The 10 a.m. Eu--- "A lay group which feels charist this Sunday sponsible and helpful should will be a surprise nd out for itself what needs bag for all of us be done, instead of sulking It is being planned the sidelines. by nine fellows o The comments above typify a the School of Conntroversy which is hurtful to tinuing Education nose involved, but probably at Virginia Seminnknown to most members of the ary, under superelebration of Life parish. vision of our clere disagreement is between the gy, to teach these ltar Guild and the clergy. experienced pastor ne fight has raged for a year. about the design The Altar Guild, which now creative worship. umbers about fifteen members, The Scriptures responsible for the houseeeping of the altar. This in-Isaiah 9:2-4 ludes setting up for and I Cor. 1:10-17 leaning up after daily Masses, Matthew 4:12-17

Welcome to BREAD. It's here to feed you. If you want to be Do you have questions: Why the liturgical experimentation? What is Build Black up to these 🦸 days? What's happening to the

BREAD IS YOUR THING! IT'S THE BRAND NEW HAPPENING AT ST. STEPHEN'S

Christian Education program this year? BREAD exists to answer the se questions. It's a serious effort to bridge the communications gap we all know exists at

St. Stephen's. But, if this venture is going to be successful, it can't operate in a vacuum.

It needs you. It needs your articles, your comments, your complaints and your appreciation.

Or it won't succeed. Anyone can turn out a stale parish bulletin. But if you want an exciting publication that reflects our way of life at St. Stephen's and helps us grow, then your help is needed. Urgently.

BREAD is here to feed you. Come, partake of the meal.

Capital Campaign officially

launched," Linda Kaufman ushered St.

tious undertakings since the church was

The occasion was the May 5 Annual

Meeting and Capital Campaign Kick-

Off event, attended by

speaking parishioners.

100 English- and Spanish-

To great astonishment,

Linda unveiled the cam-

Stephen's into one of its most ambi-

Sunday: A Service of Prophecy Students from the University of Maryland, under the direction of the Rev. Wofford Smith, will present "A Service of Prophecy for Ameri-

Multi-media in scope, this is a highly evocative service of penitence which dwells on the irony separating the religious and political conventions of today from the reality of Christianity.

It is a highly appropriate introduction to Advent.

Related to the same theme, the Senior High Class meeting with Robert Haskle, a member of the Executive Committee of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship and a draft counselor for the Society of Friends. He will be talking about Christian response to the draft. The meeting will take place in the old rectory at 1503 Newton. It's open to

ORDINATION OF WOMEN PRIESTS TAKES PLACE HERE; MANY THANKS

Alleluia: It is done! Last Sunday was a glorious ay at St. Stephen's as the ordination of four women deacons to the priesthood took place here at 4 p.m. The two-hour service proceeded beautifully, marked by many exhilarating moments. With about 1200 people in attendance, the hymn singng and responses through the church. There are so many people who

elped to make this wonderful day come to be. We thank all you who worked so hard. Earlier in the day, at the 10 a.m. service, there was a special service of spiritual preparation for the ordination service. Carole Crumley preached and Vienna was sent off to her There were attempts to reach

a compromise with Bishop Creighton before the ordination service. On Wednesday, Sept 3, the vestry met with Bishop Creighon and Bishop Walker for two hours. Fr. Wendt says it was "one of the vestry's finest hours," as its members presented eloquently the many issues

vice has taken place, we must irn to the more mundame concerns of the parish and work to See Ordination, page 3

Now that the ordination ser-

Romans 14: 7-9 SUNDAY Matthew 18; 21:35 Forgiveness is un-

limited. God has forgiven you your sins. But if you have not shown mercy and forgiveness then how can God forgive? Not mercy in word but in deed. Seven times seven meant to the early Christians unlimited forgiveness. Turn

Ecclesiaticus 27:29-

Corgiveness. Turn
the other cheek.God
is love and love is
forgiveness; from
the beginning God
has been and is love.
From the Old Testament through the
Gospels and into the
letters of St. Paul,
the message has been
clear and consistent:
love others as yourself and forgive others as you would yourself. This is the faith of Christ. This is the good news. The gospel.

LENT STARTS WEND

QUITS LENT DESIGN & M WILL MEET MONDAY 2/15 6 90 CHURCH

th came to deliberate a course action around Rector William Wendt's proposed part-time reurn. Many were astounded by his nouncement of formal resignation Bill will remain associated with the parish and perhaps the voluneer clergy, but will no longer be our rector after April 30th. The congregation expressed their praise for him and their sorrow t his decision, joining in a spontaneous eucharist. Thereaf-ter the vestry proposal was disussed and an alternative proposl drafted by Bill MacKaye and Bill Wendt was considered. The parish meeting instructed the vestry to present a three-year action plan at the annual parish meeting (April 2-1st Sunday after

Easter) for discussion and possible approval. The vestry meets next on Monday, February 13th. Stephen Bates contributed his eeting--interlining the columns f this issue. We hope to print arriet Ross' photojournalistic ssay on the meeting next issue. ndividual comments will be welome on these pages: road divinaSenesis 2:4b-9.

lave mercy on me, epent in Psalm 51 sets a lenten tone. and New Testament readings, what a ourney is covered. reation and fall-sin, death and redemption. Although

Miserere mei, Deus-

e acknowledge the all. we do not sit with it, since Jesus Christ has brought is to salvation by he grace of a loving Father--and it is from our position turn back" in oedience to Christ.

The Gospel brings us again to see Jesus haring temptation ut standing fast in the Truth. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving kindness....

## IL B.R.G. a.O.I \* THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT \* MARCH 8, 1987

hree Sunday Eucharists, and

pecial events. It also in-

ludes polishing the altar, the

ilver and brass, washing and

roning linens, sending vest-

ents to be dry-cleaned. Every

hurch has an altar guild. The

athedral has a guild right out

f Cecil B. De Mille, with team

At St. Stephen's the Altar

Guild feels it is being de-

stroyed by a clergy drive to

Some members of the Guild

(See Controversy, p. 4)

find it hard to serve the Lord

id the parish of "groups."

aptains and committees.

THE IDOLATRY OF LANGUAGE Change is never easy. As we struggle with new ways of thinking about God, the issue of inclusive language continues to evoke controversy. To ignore the questions is to deny the importance of words and their influence on our attitudes.

In my struggle to make sense of this issue I am constantly called to reflect on my own experiences with God. There seem to be several recurring themes. God always defies my feeble human attempts to define a power beyond my comprehension. I have experienced a God of love who cares for us deeply enough to be present and involved in our daily lives. And I have experienced a God who loves everyone equally; who does not make distinctions between people because of race or age or sex. The most wonderful manifestation of these themes is God's revelation in Jesus

Jesus, as God's incarnation, was incident-ly a man (as opposed to a woman). Significance lies in his presence as God/human and not in his maleness. God as Father is a wonderful image which evokes special memories. The image of God as Mother can be equally beautiful and evoke many of the same images of God's love symbolically described as parental love. Either image is our attempt to place our experience of God in a context that we

Christ. Yet we sometimes seem to misplace the significance of that incarnation.

understand. To those who would say that the concept of a Mother-God is a return to idol worship I ask whether there is any difference in worshipping only a Father-God. Attempting to "create" one image of God for all circumstances is as much idolatry as our worship of other gods. Masculine images of God have meaning. But other images can only enrich our experiences if we are open to them, I do not advocate removing all references to God as Father rather accepting some less recognized Biblical images of God (continued inside)

Scripture Notes: Lent I Genesis 2:4b ff

Today's epistle,

outtressed by the

lesson and the gos

pel, emphasizes

point too often o

verlooked by church

people including,

alas, those of us at St. Stephen's

This is simply that

no interpreter o

Christianity is fi

nal. We have only

one leader, and he

is Jesus Christ.

The story of the creation of man and a woman is the first Bible reading we hear for Lent. In the second chapter of Genes we're told that God caused a ma made from the "dust of ground" to fall into a deep sleep. Then God took a rib from the man and built up a woman from it. Many people feel that this story supports a sexist, male domi nated view of life. After all, birth is the woman's function not the man's. But perhaps we can look more closely.

An attribute of God that Christians find intriguing, if not threatening, is that God reverses the order of the world We believe that God's ways are not our ways. As Jesus put it: "You have heard it said ... but ! say unto you...

In the story of creation, God begins by reversing the world's order in two ways. The first human being is created of dust Yet in the world's order, dust is what we end up being. In God's order, dust is our begin ning; in the world's order it is our ending.
God reverses the world's orde again by using a "man's" rib to give birth to a woman. The "man is utterly helpless and useless a tool in the hands of God -like Mary when she conceives. You have heard it said ... but I say unto you...

The creation story shows God as dominant. We know from the

beginning that God's ways are not our ways. And to that, if

weren't Lent, we could all sho

Craig Biddle

paign's goal of \$750,000 in pledges from current greater astonishment,

parishioners. And to even she announced that over \$500,000 has already been pledged by just over 40 parishioners. She explained that when donations from former parishioners, foundations, and those who see

St. Stephen's as a community center are added in, the total raised is likely to surpass one million dollars. As previous issues of BREAD have reported, the bulk of the money will go to making significant improvements to our worship space, to make it more flexible and conducive to worship and to the many other events that take place there. We'll eliminate the last remaining sources of water leaks, repair plas-

ter, paint, purchase new seating, install

a new sound system, and expand the

area around the altar plus make changes to the reredos so that the now-covered windows above the altar can again pro-

Widening the Circle: The Campaign for St. Stephen's

Sets Goal of \$750,000

Capital Campaign

Stephen & the Incarnatio

in Words and Pictures

vide light and color to the altar area. We'll also build a new kitchen and bathrooms in the auditorium, remove asbestos from the utility spaces under the church, and hopefully convert to geothermal heating and cooling. All were able to un-

derstand the proceedings thanks to simultaneous translation. The evening included a taped message from Bishop Mariann and ended with dancing. Those who were pres-

ent on May 5 received information about the capital campaign. All other parishioners should have received materials in the mail by now. A member of the capital campaign cabinet will be in touch with every parishioner

soon to discuss the campaign. One major surprise on May 5 was the unveiling of 30 posters documenting the history of St. Stephen's Church from the founding of the Church of the Incarnation in 1865 to the present day. The posters will remain on display for six months throughout the church and the auditorium. Some contain photos and images of documents most parishioners have never seen, such as a Washington Post photo of the Rev. Alison Cheek celebrating the ⇒ page 2

INSIDE: ANNUAL MEETING RESULTS

May 20, 2012

The Seventh

Easter

Number 1702

BREAD is now mailed to around 500 peope; in the past the number was as high as 1,000. All 1,700 issues have been mailed by volunteers.



The Newsletter of St. Stephen and the Incarnation Episcopal Church

tees. They are meant to apply to each of us as individu-

als, as well as to the parish corporately

## **How to Simplify**

figured out a way to do its work, and reports having a great time doing it. Members are Liane Rozzell, Ruth von Fleckenstein, Tom Bell, Carlyle Gill, Michele Lewis, Diane Amussen, and Laura Mol.

Working together on the task of how to free up time and energy to address the issues which the parish has named as areas of greatest concern—growth and size, spirituality and nurture, and oversight and authoritythey now offer a set of thirteen "Queries" to consider when contemplating proposed projects, or the implementation of great new ideas, or responses to urgent

needs, or even the continuation of standing commit

will become our parish's priorities in the months ahead. The statement is as follows: The Renewal Committee will facilitate parish self-defininition and encourage growth through a variety of meetings for large and small groups. The Renewal Committee

orporate worship respond to the needs of the SSI community and fosters spiritual growth, always vision and fit its resources; will have completed its task when:

The use of Queries is borrowed from the Quaker tradition, where they are understood not as questions to be answered, but rather as questions under which one lives, standards with which one wrestles, considerations within which one reflects. The Queries for St. Stephen's, found on the insert (we've made it easy for you to carry the Queries around with you or post them in some conspicuous place for frequent contemplation) are the centerpiece of the committee's progress report to the vestry on Monday the 21st. They are offered here in Bread as a preliminary report; the vestry response will follow in the next issue.

**News from the Renewal Committee** ment of identity as a Christian

parish-wide reflection and dis-

2. Our plans for program and

(originally called the Rehas established a set of six goals for its part in this renewal/reformation process. It forms a sort of mission statement for parish renewal, and

with the intent to glorify God; 3. Plansforworship, program, financial management and building use express the commun-ity's 4. Goals for the growth of the parish emerge from parish-wide reflection and discussion; 1. SSI has a clear, written state-5. Procedures and mechan-

community that has emerged from and address the issues and concerns of the parish, and lines of responsibility and accountability are clear; 6. We have scheduled annual self-

evaluations to learn from our experience as a community. The above statement is posted on newsprint in the back of the church. and parishioners are invited to express their level of agreement-or greement-with each of these goals; there are also paper and pens for comments to be registered. The Committee also decided on a

-continued on page 4

CIRCLE THE CAMPAIGN FOR ST. STEPHEN'S THE