
The Episcopale News

Cople Episcopal Parish
July 2009

Founded 1664
www.copleparish.org

Westmoreland County, Virginia
Vol. XII No. 6

Parish the Thought.....

Powering Down

by Paul Theerman

I've looked back through my files, and it's been five months since I last wrote here. That was in mid-January, and this is mid-June, and what a difference five months makes! Then we were going into a hard, cold, work season, heading towards Lent. Now we've just finished Easter season, the kids are getting done with school, Memorial Day is past, and we're heading towards Independence Day. And everything is warm, green, and, this year, wet!

The Sunday service this morning was relaxed, we had a first-rate guest preacher, and a good visit from Bishop Johnston last week and the beautiful weather this week lifted our spirits. With a lot of kids in our church, vacations become summertime things, and people are beginning to swap stories about their plans.

I like the relaxation after a hard winter and spring. But it got me thinking: does our faith admit of a break? To be a Christian is to take a hard path. The external life of faith demands devotion to a regular cycle of public worship, private prayer, spiritual study, and charitable giving; to a life of pursuing justice and serving others (see the BCP, under "The Baptismal Covenant," pages 304–5!). The internal life of faith is strenuous: seeking to discern and to follow God's will; dying to self to live to God; and always starting in penitence, as does the publican—in the parable of the publican and the Pharisee—who can only say, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." (See Luke 18: 9–14 and the BCP, under the Renunciations and the Professions, page 302–3!).

So, how does all this high-mindedness square with opening a cold one on a warm afternoon, or tooling around the river, enjoying the spray, or watching the sunset on a glorious July day, or entertaining friends late into the night? How does it square with "powering down" in summertime?

Summer calls for another spiritual path, one that is no less important than the practices of "the narrow gate," but different. Recall that the purpose of our spiritual lives is to live more and

more in presence of God, and to allow God more and more to shape our lives. The "wintry" spiritual disciplines of prayer and alms-giving, penance and self-denial, study and reflection provide powerful ways to enter into God's presence. But the "summery" ones are—like fields growing all on their own after spring planting—the ones that allow the hard work of the winter to come to fruition. Now is the time to see God's presence in the glorious world around us. Now is the time to live out the great love of the Father, Son, and Spirit, in communion with one another. Now is the time to give thanks to God for life so abundantly given us, and to enjoy it!

What relieves this idea from a simple veneer of just doing what we want is this: God is present in all we do. Call to mind the words of Psalm 139:

Where can I go then from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

If I climb up to heaven, you are there; if I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand will lead me and your right hand hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.

God is with us, always and everywhere—so our "summer spirituality" gives us the task to see God wherever we are, and in whatever we do. Or perhaps "task" is too strong, too work-oriented—our summer spirituality is to be open to God's presence, in the loud parts as well as the quiet parts, in the fun and exuberance as well as the calm and reflection. It's not "giving up on God" for a while, rather it's putting into practice what we've learned: being present to God, "relaxing into God," and seeing the hand, and face, and love of God, when we aren't intentionally worshipping, or praying, or doing any of the formal disciplines of the Christian life. It's putting into practice the art of being present to God throughout our lives.

And that's what it's all about, isn't it?

Paul Theerman is a parishioner at St. Peter's, Purcellville. There he facilitates the adult education course, Education for Ministry. He occasionally leads Morning Prayer at Good Shepherd, Bluemont, close to where he lives.

Nomini Church at Mt. Holly St. James Church at Tidwells Yeocomico Church at Tucker Hill
Parish House and Offices - 72 Coles Point Road - Hague - 804-472-2593 - copleparish@rivnet.net
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 110 - Hague, VA 22469

Cople Parish Golf Team Brings Home the Gold!

The Coates-Pegelow Golf for a Cure tournament was held at Hobbs Hole Golf Course on May 29th. This tournament benefited the Westmoreland County "Relay for Life" for the American Cancer Society. Our very own Brian Daiger captained the Cople Parish team. The tournament was a "Captain's Choice" format and Brian along with school team mate Austin Evans and two very last minute players hit the course with a vengeance scoring a 17 under par, 54, winning top honors for the day.

The tournament is held in memory of Johnny Coates, a long time resident of Montross, and assistant coach of the Washington & Lee High golf team. Even though Johnny lost his battle to cancer in 2008, his spirit was alive and well. The day was filled with fun and laughter, just the way Johnny would have wanted.

The tournament is also in honor of Lori Pegelow, an elementary school teacher at Washington District and life long friend of Lenna Daiger. Lori was diagnosed with cancer in late 2007 and after undergoing treatment in 2008 is now cancer free. Just recently, Lori was named Westmoreland County's "Teacher of the Year" for the 2008-2009 school year.

The tournament brought in close to \$10,000.00 for the American Cancer Society. Please pray that the funds will be used wisely to help those suffering from cancer and to aid the scientists and doctors in finding a cure.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

Transfer in:

Muni Moss

Burial:

**Annamarie Paula Louise
Ostendorf Church**

Antique Show

On Saturday, July 11th from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Wellford Hall, St. John's Church, 5987 Richmond Road, Warsaw, VA a One-Stop Antique Road Show will be held.

Items will be evaluated by professionals in Early Furniture, Paintings, Glass, Lighting, China, Civil War Items, Documents, Kitchen Ware, Prints, Antique Cars and Books.

There is a \$10 fee per item/3 items for \$25.00. Tickets are available at the door. Food and Beverages will be available.

Proceeds benefit the Richmond County Museum and the Northern Neck Branch APVA (the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities) For more information call 804-333-4333.

News from the Wainwright Family

Congratulations are in order for Timothy Wainwright, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Philip Wainwright. Timothy graduated from Baldwin High School on June 15th. The announcement was mailed to us and thoughtfully contained Timothy's picture. Please come in the Parish House and see it. It is hard to believe that Timothy is no longer the young boy we remember seeing in our midst. Cople Parish sends best wishes to him as he begins his new life adventure.

Many of you will remember the Wainwright family when the Rev. Philip was our rector from July 1996 through August 1999 when he was "called" as the fifth rector of St. Peter's in the Brentwood area, Diocese of Pittsburgh, PA. A native of England, he had served parishes in New Mexico and South Carolina before joining us. He and his wife, Thekla, have six children, four grown and two still at home. We send our best wishes to the family as well.

NOTES

NEED PASTORIAL CARE?

While Kaki is on Sabbatical and you are in need of pastoral care, please call Senior Warden John Sydnor at 472-3675 or Sue Taylor at 472-3734 or the office at 472-2593. Your concern will be directed to the right person.

COPLE ECW

The Cople Parish ECW has completed its meetings for the year. Plans for next year beginning in September will be announced at a later date. Watch the newsletter and your bulletins.

UNITED THANKS OFFERING

The Spring ingathering for the UTO netted close to \$900.00. We are grateful to each and all who contributed their blessings which will add blessings to those less fortunate.

BARN SALE

The committee met last week and put the finishing touches on their plans which are designed to make things easier for all concerned. Check for an article in this edition for information.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS FOR NOMINI & YEOCOMICO

Those who would like to have memorial flowers in Yeocomico or Nomini Church are asked to call Mary Ann Rice at 472-2840 to reserve a date and to give her the information which you want in the bulletin.

SPECIAL EVENTS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Cople Parish Vestry seeks two persons to serve as co-chairs for "Special Events" preferably one from the 9 AM service and one from the 11 AM service. "Special Events" includes receptions for events including Homecoming, Blessing of the Fleet, Bishop Visitations, and Lenten Programs. For more information, please speak to a Vestry member.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Here it comes spinning around again! Where it stops is anyone's guess. Truth is it could finally gleam on anyone in the Parish and never run out of focal points. Cople Parish is filled with people who should be its focus. Selfless gifts and talents abound.

This month two faces come into the spotlight. They're a couple – a couple who manage to travel to many fascinating places and still find time and energy to continue to give of themselves to the Parish. As always, space prohibits including all they do – thumbnails are what the spotlight endeavors to do each month.

Let's see what comes up with the attributes of this busy couple:

Probably every member of the Parish has a copy of "Tastes & Tales" our masterpiece of culinary, history, and prayers cookbook. Although its first edition was the combined efforts of many, it was the "brainchild" of the female counterpart of this couple. It was through her continued pleas for a book, that a committee was drawn together and recipes poured in to us. Testing began, entering them into the computer, formatting, printing, getting the artists, and collating was all done in-house. Demand by parishioners and distribution to businesses soon covered costs and netted quite a tidy sum. (We still have a few of the second editions reprinted by an outside firm available.) She has kept the ball rolling, keeping close tabs on the sales, etc. Quite a task. If you've been sick, you've probably had her knocking at your door at home or hospital bringing sunshine or have received a card or call. She's been on tap to help with any area which requires the need. Have you had a chance to see the "Welcome Bags" she

has done for the visitors at our churches? Her enthusiasm is contagious.

On the male side we find a treasurer who guided us through our budget for at least ten years. He was always aware of what and where the monies were allotted. When he retired, he was honored with a reception at Ameslee Hall in appreciation for his many years of faithful service. Being treasurer is a volunteer job and required many hours of dedication. A poem recited at that time kind of summed up his years by using a refrain of "who kept our purse strings held so tight!" Through the ensuing years the Parish has continued to call upon his expertise. He, too, has found no task too small or too large. He's been active with our Vestry, too.

As a team, this unique couple seems to always be on hand. There are few funerals they have not attended and offered caring support to the families, and those they missed were probably because of being away on an adventure. Both have worked together on community projects.; one of the latest being the instigators of having an historic marker of the Morgan Jones kiln dedicated and added to route 202. The channels to its being were not without bumps but undaunted, they proceeded. Completion of any project is the name of the game with them.

Then the mighty winds blew and waters rose during one of our most devastating hurricanes. The church in which they had been affiliated in Mississippi was primarily destroyed. It was they who gathered a band of volunteers to head that way and help with cleanup – actually any activity including helping to acquire furnishings. Their outreach expands so much further than our local and parish needs. When trouble is at hand, there are their hands!

Certainly by now you have identified Bill and Helen King who have added so much to our Parish. Blessings and thanksgivings are offered to them for their gifts and talents which are such an asset to our family!

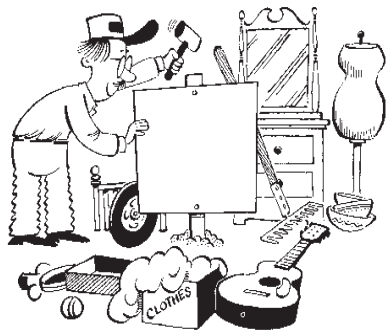


Birthdays

July 2	Tom Mahan
July 5	Marianne Foxwell Lee Arnest
July 6	Scottie Arnest
July 7	Beth (or "E") Headley Ginny Skord
July 10	Sarah Hundley
July 13	Betty Carden Charlie Davison
July 14	Virginia Tubman
July 15	Sarah Margaret Saunders
July 17	David Smith
July 18	Phil Arnest
July 21	Buddy Green
July 2	Laura Mae Jenkins
July 27	Henry Rowe
July 28	Keri Straughan
July 29	Betty Lou Johnson
July 31	Nancy Fairfax

Anniversaries

July 6	Dick and Jeanie Sullivan Tim & Lenna Daiger
July 16	Mike and Courtney Walke
July 17	Maria & Tim Bradley
July 18	Herb & Liz Carden



Barn Sale Update

Lots going on behind the scenes as we ramp up our activities for Barn Sale 2009.

If you haven't done so already, please mark your calendar for the BIG DAY, which is Saturday, September 12th.

It's also time to begin putting things aside to donate. By now you know what we need, so just keep an eye out for the "stuff" in your life that just takes up space and isn't of use to you anymore. We are happy to have it.

The best way to make a donation is to come on the dates when we will have our Drive Up/Drop Off service in operation: August 25th and 26th, and Sept. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, from 9AM to 1PM each day.

If there are things you have to donate prior to that date, call Janice Woolley at 529-7841 and make arrangements to do that. Please do not take anything to the parish house without notifying the ladies of the barn sale. Unauthorized dumping is frowned upon, and could result in a bunch of irritated church ladies.

You may have noticed an early Edison phonograph in the hallway at the parish house. This is a very special donation to us from the estate of his mother, Frances, by Rev. Charles Raymond Sydnor. We are exploring its value (as well as the value of the numerous recorded cylinders that have been donated with it), and how we might sell it for what it is truly worth. If you have any knowledge that might help us to do this, we would like to hear from you.

Who's Coming to Cople?

In the next three months there will be six priests and a bishop coming to share in worship with you. I know you will welcome them warmly. They will each bring a message worth hearing. I believe you will enjoy the variety they will offer.

The Rev. Dr. Chris Agnew, PhD, was born in Santa Barbara, CA, and received degrees from Bucknell in PA, University of Delaware, and General Theological Seminary. Ordained Deacon in 1991, and Priest in 1992, Chris has served churches in Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. He currently serves St. Paul's Church in Nomini Grove two Sundays a month. Chris is also Ecumenical Officer for the Diocese of Virginia and is an adjunct professor of Church History at Virginia Theological Seminary (VTS). Chris currently lives in King George.

Born in Richmond, **The Rev. Dr. Howard Hanchey**, PhD, attended Virginia Tech, University of North Carolina, VTS, and Union Theological Seminary, Richmond. Ordained Deacon in 1967 and Priest in 1968, Howard has served churches in Richmond (St. Paul's), Virginia Beach, and Connecticut. He retired from teaching at Virginia Seminary about 5 years ago (was a professor of Kaki's) and now makes his home in Lancaster County. Most recently he has served as Interim Rector at Grace, Kilmarnock, and Trinity, Portsmouth.

Ordained Deacon in 1962 and Priest in 1963, **The Rev. Dr. Harrison Simons**, D.D., was born in Massachusetts but educated at Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, and Bexley Hall (Seminary) in New York. He served churches in Richmond (St. Thomas) and North Carolina. Harrison runs an Episcopal Bookstore in Oxford and the bookstore at Shrine Mont in Virginia. He is a Christian Educator by nature. A resident of Oxford, Harrison and his wife have a summer home in Coles Point and have worshiped with us in Cople Parish from time to time.

The Rev. Ted Tulis celebrated 50 years of ordained ministry last fall with a great celebration at St. Mary's Church in Fleeton where he was serving as Priest-

in-Charge. He hails from the Diocese of New York and serves as a Chaplain to the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Currently Ted and his wife, Judy, reside in White Stone where they are enjoying his retirement.

The Rev. Dr. Hal White, DMin, a resident of Wicomico Church, is no stranger to Cople Parish. He served as consultant to the Self Study Committee and has visited us twice this past year speaking at our Lenten Program. Hal and his wife, Sally, are volunteers for the Northern Neck Volunteer Hospice. Hal was ordained Deacon in 1965 and Priest in 1966 in Southern Virginia. He served Churches in Glen Allen (Christ), Danville, South Boston (VA), Albans, West VA, and Alexandria (St. Aidan's) retiring in 1997. He was adjunct professor at VTS while in Alexandria.

The Rev. Karen Woodruff, a native of Ohio, was educated at Whittenberg University and Berkley Divinity School at Yale University. Ordained Deacon and Priest in 1994, she served as Priest-in-Charge of Vauter's Church off Rt. 17 north of Tappahannock 1994-2001. Karen also served St. Peter's Church, Port Royal, 1994-2003. Currently she serves part time at Trinity Church, Lancaster, as Associate to the Rector with responsibility for Christian Education. You may remember Karen as she celebrated at Cople Parish in Kaki's absence last summer.

Karen will assist **The Rev. Charles Sydnor**, former rector of St. George's Church in Fredericksburg and a "son of Cople Parish", with any pastoral care needs requiring a priest. If you have any such need, please contact the office (472-2593), Sue Taylor, or John Sydnor, Sr. Warden, who will make the decision whom to contact. Your vestry members and Sue Green will be making regular calls on members of the parish who are unable to be in church. If you need such a visit, please call the office.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 8:30am Annual Burnt House Field Event 9:30am Commemorative Service, Yeocomico
5 9 am HC Nomini 11am HC Yeocomico	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 9 am HC Nomini 11am HC Yeocomico	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 9 am HC Nomini 11am HC Yeocomico	20	21 6:30pm Vestry, PH	22	23	24	25
26 9 am HC Nomini 11am HC Yeocomico	27	28	29	30	31	

Cople Parish Summer Services

Because of the long- anticipated renovation of St. James Church in Tidwells, our summer schedule has been changed.

Please note carefully.

Services in July will bring the regular 9 AM services of Holy Communion from St. James to Nomini Church on Rte. 202 at Nomini Bridge.

Yeocomico Church will maintain its regular schedule of 11 AM Holy Communion services each Sunday.

The schedule will continue until August 16th when St. James will open its newly remodeled doors at the church and parish hall to welcome The Rt. Rev. Shannon Johnston for the Eucharist and coffee hour. Services will then continue as normally scheduled at St. James; 9 AM every Sunday.

Yeocomico Church will receive Bishop Johnston for a service of Holy Communion and Confirmation on August 16th as well. Following the service there will be a covered dish luncheon at Ameslee Hall in honor of our confirmed and Bishop Johnston. Please bring your favorite recipes of meat, casseroles, salads, or desserts.

The EpisCople News is published by Cople Parish.

The Rev. Catherine W. Swann, Rector,

John Sydnor, Sr. Warden, Mary Young Tracy, Jr. Warden, Stevenson Walker, Treasurer

**Cople Parish
P.O. Box 110
Hague, VA 22469**

**Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 1**