

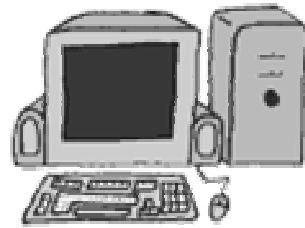
## Evangelism Adult Classes

Evangelism (or "Shape a Circle Ever Wider and a People Ever Free") will be discussed at the 9 am Adult Education hour on Sunday April 3, 10, 17 and 23. Using the Sunday's Gospel reading, we will reflect on God's Love and our faith journey as the oomph that is needed to respond to our Baptism, to Scripture and to St. George's Vision Statement. Such reflection and discussion not only fit the Easter Season, but also express our desire to share St. George's with others. Please put these dates on your calendar. If you have questions about this program, please contact Regina Lanning or Terry Doyle.

## The Wider Circle On Stgeo.org

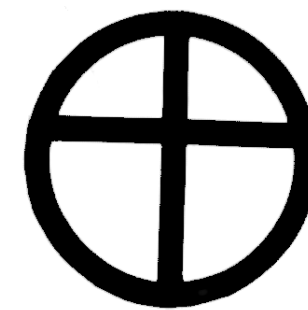
*Serena Wyckoff, Editor*

Would you like to help St. George's save printing and mailing costs for this newsletter by downloading it as a PDF file from our web site? If yes, please send an email to me at [editor@stgeo.org](mailto:editor@stgeo.org). When each edition is published, I'll send an email to the parish with a link to the online version. (Not on the parish email list? Let me know!) We won't print a copy for you, so please don't take one for yourself.



It's fine if you wish to continue to receive printed copies — you don't need to do anything. However, it helps if regular attendees pick up their copies at church so that we don't have to mail them. Thanks!

**The Wider Circle**  
**St. George's Episcopal Church**  
**P.O. Box 188**  
**Glenn Dale, MD 20769**  
**Address correction requested**



# The Wider Circle

**St. George's Episcopal Church**  
**Glenn Dale Parish, Maryland**

*"Shape a circle ever wider and a people ever free."*

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April 2005

Volume 4, Number 4

## Vestry Candidates

*Libbie Griffin, Senior Warden*

Please read the short bios that the six prospective candidates have submitted in preparation for our Annual Meeting on May 1, 2005. We will have five positions to fill on the Vestry which include four two-year terms and one one-year term. The year begins on June 1, 2005.

We also will need to appoint a new Parish Clerk along with a Diocesan Delegate and Alternate.

Notice of the Annual Meeting is posted in the Narthex along with a list of all members of St. George's who are eligible to vote. Please note: our bylaws stipulate that youth aged 15 and older who meet all the criteria have a vote! Please check the list and if your name is missing and you think it should be there, please contact either Sue Geiger, Junior Warden, or myself!

## Ministries Fair

*Lee Rowe, Chair, Stewardship Committee*

St. George's will hold its Annual Ministries Fair on May 1, 2005, right after the Annual Meeting. It's a great time to learn about the many parish ministries that are happening at this happening place.

What do you like doing? What are you good at? What would you like to try doing or learning? What time and talent can you offer to God's church? Please think about these questions and talk with friends, colleagues, vestry members, and parishioners about your gifts and how you can help carry on our mission. And remember, if you plan on

continuing with your current ministry work, you still need to sign up. Also, you're not signing a perpetual contract. You can always change ministry work during the year or make it clear that you may be available only for a certain time period. We like to be flexible and the more people we get, the more flexible we can be.

So please stay after the annual meeting and partake of goodies offered by the various ministries tables in Miller Hall. Ask questions, have fun, and sign up!

## Search Committee Update

*Donna Haselton*

The Search Committee wishes to thank all of you participated in the parish survey for your thoughtful responses. As of the end of March, we received completed surveys from 73 adult members of the congregation, as well as 14 from our young people. The data from the surveys is being analyzed now, and will be used for the next two very important steps in the search process. The data will enable the Search Committee to accurately complete the Church Deployment Form, which describes who we are and what we are looking for in our next priest, and will be used by the national church to locate candidates for us to consider. The survey also will provide information for the Parish Profile, a booklet sent to interested candidates describing St. George's in more detail. The Profile will describe who we are, the history of the parish, our goals and values, and the qualities we are seeking in our next priest.

Additionally, the information gathered through the focus groups and survey process will guide the Search Committee's efforts as we begin to screen potential candidates. It would not be possible for the Search Committee to complete any of these tasks without having received the input of so many in the congregation. Thank you.

### Stewardship 101: Proportional Giving

*Lee Rowe, Chair, Stewardship Committee*

*St. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 16:2, "Every Sunday each of you must put aside some money, in proportion to what he has earned...."(The Good News Bible)*

As we remember and celebrate what Jesus gave to his people during this happy Easter Feast, now is a good time to remember what we can give to his people the church. Some may ask, "How much should I give?" The Episcopal Church has resolved that the Tithe (10%) is the minimum standard for our giving. It is a proportional gift depending on what your income is. It can be determined either by a weekly, monthly, yearly breakdown of what you earn. If you find that you are not even close to tithing, don't be alarmed. Start by giving some percentage of your income and commit yourself or family to increase it and work your way up. That is how my family is doing it.

Now that you know, we hope that every member of the parish will become a proportionate giver, determining the amount they give to support the mission of the church as a percentage of their income. We believe that the practice of proportionate giving, moving toward and beyond the tithe, will provide each of us with a new spiritual richness. Our offerings will provide new and exciting opportunities to carry out our mission and ministry, which will enable us to joyfully proclaim the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through this wondrous place we call St. George's.

Note: I hope to continue what I call "Stewardship 101" for each newsletter as we continue our journey in faith and respond to God's call to us at St. George's.

### Many Happy Returns

Are you receiving a tax refund from Uncle Sam? Spread the good fortune and donate a tithe of it to the church. Not only will you spread the good fortune but also the Good News.

#### The Wider Circle

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The Rev. Thelma A. Smullen,  
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#### Glenn Dale Parish Vestry:

- Libbie Griffin, Senior Warden
- Susan Geiger, Junior Warden
- Rick Boda
- Jeanette Greaney
- Rowland Hoke
- Kim Newman
- Herb Josey
- Audrey Profitt-Henry
- Alix Volel-Stech, Treasurer
- Linda Sanches, Assistant Treasurer
- Debbie Nebel, Clerk
- Karen Horrocks, Convention Delegate
- Jeffrey Williams, Alternate Convention Delegate

#### Mission Statement

The mission of St. George's is to build a Christian community of love and support that actively seeks and includes all people.

We commit ourselves to spiritual growth through worship and education that empowers us to follow Christ's example in the world.

### Rector's Schedule

Mother Thelma and John Smullen leave on vacation March 31 to attend their son's wedding in Las Vegas. Then Mother Thelma is away a second week at Credo, her clergy training program in Louisiana.

Please extend a true St George's welcome to Rev. John Andrews who will be with us on Sunday, April 3 and Sunday, April 10. Remember: Hospitality is Job #1!

### Holy Week

*Libbie Griffin, Senior Warden*

A most grateful thank you to everyone who made this past week such a great success! We had a Sunday filled with Palms to a full Holy Week and on to a rousing Easter celebration. We thank each and every one of you for the part you played in this most Holy of Church Festivals. There is not enough space to recognize everybody but you know who you are and what an important part you played!

We also are so very appreciative to all of you who heeded our appeal for additional funds at Easter. Thank you all for your most generous contributions which amounted to approximately \$2,466 over and above the regular pledges. The additional monies will assist us in catching up with some very significant outstanding bills. Thank you!

### Easter Eggstravaganza

*Rick and Deb Boda*

We want to thank all those "young at heart" St. Georgians who helped with the Easter Egg Eggstravaganza. We dyed almost 600 eggs! Thanks to Rev. Thelma for the special red egg dye (from Greece) for the remembrance eggs. We had over 170 of the red eggs available for the congregation to take home. Many thanks to Sue Geiger and Donna Haselton for coloring them all. Thank yous go out to Marion DePriest and Linda Chrisey for helping to supervise our "expert" egg coloring team.

Thanks to Linda Chrisey, Deb Nebel, Tim Nebel and Jonathan Boda for making the hunt possible by hiding **all** of those eggs. The egg hunt was a grand time. The children's baskets were full and overflowing. This year we had so many young hands eager for the hunt that we ran out of baskets! (By the way, if you happen to have any extra, moderate-sized Easter Baskets that you would like to donate for next year's festivities, please feel free to bring them in.)

Thank you for making this fellowship event so memorable!

### Gaywood Elementary School Volunteer Opportunities

Our "adopted" school can use volunteer help at the following upcoming events (specific dates will be forthcoming).

*April* — Math Night — help run math games  
*April or May* — Career Day speakers

The school also needs tutors/mentors for reading, math, and writing. The tutoring program at the school runs from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Instruction is provided.

Please contact Gladys Leonard at the school (301-918-8730) to volunteer or for information. And please inform the Social Action Committee if you volunteer. We would like to keep track of participation.





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