

**Area Youth Ministry Events**

**High School Coffee Hour November 6**

High school students are invited to our Coffee Hour on Friday, November 6. We will meet at St Andrew's Episcopal Church in College Park at 7 pm and spend the evening at our favorite coffee house, College Perk, returning to St. Andrew's by 10 pm.

**Holy Trinity's Contemporary Service November 14**

All youth are invited to Holy Trinity's Contemporary Service on Sunday, November 14, at noon. This monthly service is planned and led by the youth of Holy Trinity, and they want to share their worship and music with you. The theme of their service this month is "God Doesn't Mess Around."

**Middle School Gathering November 19**

Sixth through eighth grade students are invited to our Area Youth Ministry Gathering

on Friday, November 19, 7 to 9 pm. We will meet at Holy Trinity in Bowie, for fun, fellowship, and of course, food.

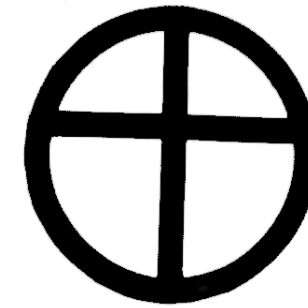
**Contact Karen Horrocks or Erin Iverson for more information about these events or to sign up.**

**Attention Sunday Readers**

Beginning this month we will send the readings to you via email instead of U.S. Mail. You should receive them by the Thursday of the week before you are scheduled to read. This as a cost-saving change as well as time-saving. Of course, we will continue to use regular mail to anyone without internet access.

**Mark Your Calendar**

St. Nicholas Party, Saturday, December 4th



**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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**Stewardship Brunch on Nov. 14**

*Lee Rowe, Chair, Stewardship Committee*

Please plan to attend our festive brunch on November 14 following the 10 am service. We will share what makes St. George's so important to us, discuss what ministries make St. George's the special place it is, and hear some of the challenges we face (not just transition challenges).

We have a goal of receiving 60 pledges this year and we are excited about our future. God has been generous to St. George's and you have shared in that generosity with your gifts to this church. We ask that you prayerfully consider your pledge in the next few weeks and think what St. George's means to you, to this community, and to the world at large. We also ask that you make your pledge on Sunday, November 21, so that our vestry can start working on a budget for next year.

God presents us challenges each year and this year they are obvious in the form of a transition and search for a new rector. We have met challenges before and we are confident that we will do so again.

Please join us for the brunch. It will be catered with childcare provided during the discussions. Bring yourself, your family, a healthy appetite, and your thoughts about how St. George's can better share and live the good news of Christ Jesus.

**On Sunday, November 14, we will have one combined service at 10 am for Stewardship Sunday.**

**Vestry Announces Search Committee Members**

*Martha Horn, Senior Warden*

After a great deal of discernment, deliberation, and prayer, we are pleased to announce that the Search Committee has been formed. The following individuals will serve in this very important ministry in the life of our parish during this time of transition and the selection of a new rector.

- Patrick Hardy
- Donna Haselton
- Debbie Moore
- Hilda Nichol
- Anne Package
- Joann Prosser
- John Rebstock
- Josephine Ross
- Jeffrey Williams

Anne Package and Jeffrey Williams will serve as co-chairs. The Search Committee will work closely with our search consultant, Nancy Warren, and they will find a strong resource in our interim rector, the Rev Thelma Smullen.

Committee members will be commissioned on Sunday, October 31. In a few weeks, during the 10 am service, the vestry will give them the formal "charge" to begin their work. We ask that you join us in thanking them for accepting this responsibility. They will need our prayers and support in the work they will do in the months ahead.

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

## Our First Community Health Fair

*Regina Lanning, Social Action Committee*

The festive transformation of Miller Hall for our first Community Health Fair was stunning. All available tables were set up and covered with informational materials and promotional gifts. Months of planning and coordination with several health care providers created a network of professionals (several of whom were fellow parishioners) to instruct and answer health questions or concerns.

The Social Action Committee responded to the desire of the parish to form an outreach in our community by connecting people to health care. The areas targeted areas were Body, Mind and Health, Heart Diseases, Diabetes, Respiratory Illness, Asthma, Sexual Transmitted Diseases, Hospice, Organ Donation, Child Health, Men's and Women's



Health, Osteoporosis, Obesity, and Nutrition. Each visitor had time to review the material, ask questions of the professionals who recorded their sugar level, body metabolism rate and weight. One station was for Alternative Medicine where visitors and volunteers received a free foot massage.

Abbot Pharmaceuticals sent two of their health providers as well as making a wonderful donation to offset the cost of materials. Helium filled balloons attached to post and signs were crafted for each table to direct the visitor. A participating respiratory therapist said "that it was the best planned health fair she had every participated in." Also a lab technician said it was very professional and organized. The evaluations from the visitors showed that they too were pleased with the resources they found to answer their concerns.

We are reflecting on this experience as a great beginning to our new ministry. Future Community Health Fairs will show how we have continued to progress in reaching out and meeting the needs of others as their network in the community. We greatly appreciate everyone in the parish who came to help and all who sent out fliers. The Social Action Committee worked beautifully together with each bringing their gift to the task. With God's help all the effort, dedication and signal mindedness of the Social Action Committee brought this ministry to life.

### The Wider Circle

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### Glenn Dale Parish Vestry:

- Martha Horn , Senior Warden
- Susan Geiger, Junior Warden
- Rick Boda
- Jeanette Greaney
- Rowland Hoke
- Kim Newman
- Steven Pigott
- 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.

## Making a Commitment to Christ and the Church

*Thelma Smullen+, Interim Rector*

Usually I have several months as interim rector before the fall pledge campaign, that is, before I am asked to make a financial commitment to the parish's mission and ministry. Such is not the case with St. George's. John and I will have been with you for only a few weeks. Being handed a pledge card that quickly could seem intimidating to some. To us, it makes no difference.

It makes no difference because our financial pledge is based on a percentage of our income, without regard to which parish community we find ourselves. We sign a pledge card before we know all the programs that the parish supports, before we know how much we love you, before we are really invested. We give because we are committed to extending Christ's love, and because we trust our contributions to be administered by good stewards.

Perhaps John and I are naïve. I don't think so. My experience of Christian communities in the Episcopal Church is one of gratitude for God's wondrous grace, coupled with the desire to extend that grace to others.

What that means is that we filled out a 2004 pledge card as soon as we entered St. George's, and we will fill out a 2005 pledge card in a few weeks. We've learned that such commitment is important to our spiritual health. It is important to our belonging. It is essential to our truly joining with you as a faith community. Our wallets are part of our total being and we are committed to sharing them.

What percentage do John and I give? We give away ten percent overall. Not all of it will come to St. George's, but a major portion will. And we give it with gratitude: gratitude for all that God has done for us; gratitude for all that God has done for the world, especially for the gift of Christ; gratitude for all that God is doing in and through St. George's community. I want you to know that we consider ourselves blessed to spend this year

with you. Our pledge is our response to such blessing.

I invite you to join us. Figure out what percentage you have been giving and commit to raising it. If you haven't made a pledge before, take this important step toward spiritual growth. Together, let us move forward, trusting in God's good grace to sustain us and move us into ever new and challenging frontiers.

### Interim Rector's Contact Info

Please add our interim rector's name and address to your home telephone lists. If you have an emergency and don't find her at the church, PLEASE call her at home:

The Rev. Thelma A. Smullen  
15708 Bradford Drive  
Laurel, Maryland 20707-3261  
301-498-5659

### Next Date for Holy Baptism:

The Feast of the Baptism of our Lord,  
January 9, 2005

### Thanksgiving Eve Service

St. George's has been invited to worship with the interfaith community of Bowie at 7:30 pm on Thanksgiving Eve at TempleSolel, 2901 Mitchellville Road. Our interim rector will be part of the planning team for this service.

### Fall Yard Sale a Success

*Serena Wyckoff*

The Fall Yard Sale on October 16 made \$902! Thanks to all who helped by donating used items and working on set-up, sales, and break-down. Yard sales are important fundraisers for our parish. It's not too early to start putting aside items for the Spring Sale!

### "You've Got Mail"

The St. George's email list is a great way to stay on top of what's happening in our parish. If you've got an email address and aren't on the list, just send a request to [editor@stgeo.org](mailto:editor@stgeo.org). And remember to notify us if your email address changes!