



THE FOURTH EPISTLE SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH MOBILE, ALABAMA

The Reverend Thomas Heard, Rector
The Protestant Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast
The Right Reverend Philip Duncan, Bishop

Vol. XX, Issue 10

October 2010

FROM THE RECTOR:

Dear Ones,

Well, what do you know! It's October already. These past days have been glorious to say the least. It's weather like this that more than makes up for those hot, sticky days we call "summer."

That Fall is in the air probably reminds you that our annual Commitment Campaign will also start soon; you aren't wrong about that. Breathe, relax — I'm not writing about that today.

I am writing to you about Stewardship. I know, I know, I'm not supposed to use that word—we are Episcopalians after all. Yes, the Commitment Campaign mentioned earlier is part of Stewardship, but it is not even the most important part.

The earliest threads of stewardship are sewn in the beginning of Genesis: God puts mankind in charge of God's creation. Another place, God has Man name all of the creatures. Naming is a creative act, one in which God invites us into sharing creation. Make no mistake, in sharing with God, we also must assume responsibility for it. It is this responsibility that we humans shoulder as stewardship of creation. To me, that means that we are caretakers, stewards, trustees, parents, cousins and siblings to every little bit of what God has created for us and with us.

It is an awesome responsibility and one that I think we shirk, ignore or disregard far too often. Living on the Gulf Coast this summer, we have all experienced the effects of mankind's arrogance in our feeble attempts to make the natural world conform to our wishes. The cost of the gulf oil spill is incalculable and will not soon be forgotten. In this event, we

have failed in our stewardship. As a people, we will search for a scapegoat and try to put all the blame on it. We cannot blame the spill on any company or individual because we all share in its cause.

Our stewardship extends well beyond ecological and environmental concerns. We must include in our stewardship relationships that extend to every other person in this world. In this, we are our brothers' (and sisters') keepers; we are responsible for them just as we are responsible for ourselves. It means that we share responsibility for the homeless, the addicts, the criminals, the outcasts; a group that can never be "they", because we share their lot.

Finally, we must be stewards of ourselves: our time, our talents, our treasure. If we use ourselves up, we haven't taken care of God's creation. If we hide our talents under a bushel, we haven't allowed them to be used to care for God's creation. If our treasure accumulates and we don't use some of it to help God's creation, we have been like the man who hid the one talent in the ground until the master returned.

When I think about how best to be a good steward of God's creation, I inevitably come to a prayer: "God, give me the eyes of Jesus, that I may see what I needs be done and his strength of will that I may do it."

Thomas

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE OCTOBER LITURGICAL CALENDAR

William Tyndale

We will commemorate the life and ministry of William Tyndale at our said mass on Wednesday, 6 October at 10:00AM. Tyndale, a priest of the late 15th and early 16th centuries is best remembered for his personal campaign to render the Old and New Testaments in English, so they could be understood by common folks. Tyndale was ahead of his time. At his death in 1536, he had completed and revised a translations of the New Testament, as well as translations of the Books of Moses (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy), the book of Jonah, and Joshua, Judges, I & II Samuel, I & II Kings, and I & II Chronicles. His passion to do this work led him to a cloak-and-dagger existence that eventually led to his betrayal and death. Of his work, more than 80 percent of it survives intact in the Authorized Version of 1611, known familiarly as “the King James Version.”

Edward the Confessor

Saint Edward the Confessor was born in about 1003, son of Ethelred II and Emma. At about 10, he was sent to Normandy to live with his grandfather, Duke Richard of Normandy. He live a quiet life, and was never happier than serving at Mass. In 1042, Edward was called back to England to take the throne of the West Saxons. He was a king who cared deeply for his subjects and peace in the land. His only military forays were to aid Malcolm of Scotland against Macbeth and to repel the threatened invasion by Sweyn of Norway. Edward died in January 1066. Edward was responsible for the rebuilding of St. Peter’s Abbey at Westminster which we know better as Westminster Abbey. The Abbey was dedicated only a week before his death and is his final resting place. We will commemorate Saint Edward the Confessor at our Said Mass on Wednesday 13 October at 10:00AM.



Saint Luke

We will celebrate the life and ministry of Saint Luke the Evangelist at a said mass on Monday, 18 October, at 12:10PM. Luke, the self-identified author of the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles, brings his own perspective on the person and ministry of Jesus and Jesus’ continuing effect on the world. Luke’s account of the spread of the early church and the ministry of Saint Paul helps us to craft a picture of the world in the first century. His portrayal of the radical hospitality and inclusion that Jesus manifested still stands today as a standard by which we can judge our ministries.

Saint James of Jerusalem

We will remember Saint James of Jerusalem, the brother of Our Lord, at a said mass on Saturday, 23 October 2009 at 12:10PM. Sometimes called “James the Just”, James supported the inclusion of Gentiles in the church. According to a second-century chronicler, James provoked the ire of some factions in Jerusalem because of his success at bringing new converts into the church. Taking James to the pinnacle of the Temple, they commanded him to recant his faith and Jesus. When he refused, James was thrown from the roof and then cudged to death.

Saints Simon & Jude

Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles will be remembered at a said mass on Thursday, 28 October at 12:10PM. Sadly, our knowledge of these two original apostles is quite lacking. Simon is referred to as “a Zealot” and Saint John mentions Jude in his account of the Last Supper. Tradition associates both with the region of Persia, now Iran. Some accounts call them martyrs, some say that both died peaceful deaths in Edessa or Beirut. The Epistle of Jude brings us a unique doxology:

“Now to him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you without blemish before the presence of his glory with rejoicing, ²⁵ to the only God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and for ever. Amen.



Vestry

The regular meeting of the Vestry was held on 9 September at 7:00PM in the Great Hall. Eugene Johnston reported that Parish Life is looking into restarting the Saturday Afternoon at the Movies program.

Connie McLean took the vestry through the financial reports, observing that we are operating at less than budget for the year, but still at a deficit. She also reported that she has been working with the bank to reduce monthly fees that have recently been charged.

James Christiansen reported that there are leaks in the Great Hall roof, the Parlor roof, and the roof of the church. Additional work needs to be done to secure the lightning protection cable and the copper cladding on the bell tower. He said that we will file a claim with Church Insurance.

The rector reported that three persons were baptized on 5 September: Gabriel Morgan and Gavin & Tanner Dunham. The vestry approved the request of Venture Crew 3 to hold a car wash at the church and advertise the scout's willingness to take on yard work and odd jobs.

The ECW has volunteered to support renovation of the kitchen in the amount of \$3,000. The Vestry voted to thank the ECW for its support and will undertake a feasibility study to determine what actions are needed within the greater needs of the parish.

Eugene Johnston reported that one of the nominees for the Audit Committee has declined. The vestry approved the appointment of Jan Dabney to the committee.

Janet Buckley reported on her review of the 5-year vision of the diocese and Saint John's part in it. She believes that the topics to report on have been identified and she will begin to formalize the report.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00PM



The ECW met in the Great Hall on Wednesday, September 2, with Paula Ross presiding. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, as well as correspondence and the Treasurer's report.

- The ECW discussed and decided not to pursue producing a cookbook as a fundraiser at this time.
- The group discussed ideas for kitchen renovations, including larger refrigerator/freezer, new dishwasher, larger kitchen sink, countertops and painting walls and cabinets. A resolution was drawn up regarding the ECW paying for a portion of this job pending vestry action to undertake the project.
- The handrails going to the chancel need cleaning, polishing and lacquering, but the group decided not to pursue this project at the current time.
- Discussion was held regarding the policy of hosting a reception for the newly baptized in the Great Hall. It was decided that the receptions would be held at the discretion of the family of the one(s) being baptized.

Paula closed the meeting with two thoughts for the day.

Joyce Lee

THE SAINT JOHN'S LIVING ENDOWMENT FUND

ARE YOU INVESTING IN ST. JOHN'S FUTURE?

Good stewardship requires us to think of the future. The Saint John's Living Endowment Fund represents our commitment to that future.

Gifts to the Endowment are gifts that keep on giving. Our endowment agreement states that the "principal shall never be invaded" and that only a small portion of the income is paid out to support designated causes within Saint John's. As a result, your gift is "forever."

Help us grow our endowment by giving a donation. Any amount will be great - \$10, \$25, \$100. Just mark on your check that it is for the endowment so that we can properly account for the funds!

October 2010 at Saint John's

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MP = Morning Prayer HE = Holy Eucharist					1 830A MP	2
3 19 Pentecost 9A Sunday School 10A HE 4P Blessing Animals	4 830A MP 1130A Loaves & Fish	5 830A MP	6 William Tyndale 830A MP 10A HE + Healing 11A ECW 7P Choir	7 830A MP	8 830A MP	9
10 20 Pentecost 820A Breakfast 9A Sunday School 10A HE	11 830A MP	12 830A MP	13 Edward the Confessor 830A MP 10A HE	14 830A MP 7P Vestry	15 830A MP	16
17 21 Pentecost 9A Sunday School 10A HE 5P Evensong	18 St. Luke 830A MP 1210P HE	19 830A MP	20 830A MP 10A HE 7P Choir	21 830A MP	22 830A MP NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	23 St. James of Jerusalem 1210P HE 8A-2P Venture Crew Carwash
24 22 Pentecost 9A Sunday School 10A HE	25 830A MP	26 830A MP	27 830A MP 10A HE	28 Saints Simon & Jude 830A MP 1210P HE	29 830A MP	30
31 23 Pentecost 9A Sunday School 10A HE						

LECTIONARY AND ROTA FOR OCTOBER 2010

Date Service	3 October HE-II	10 October HE-II	17 October HE-II	17 October Evensong	24 October HE-II	31 October HE-II
Lectio- Day	Pentecost 19 C Proper 22	Pentecost 20 C Proper 23	Pentecost 21 C Proper 24	Year 2, Proper 24 Evensong	Pentecost 22 C Proper 25	Pentecost 23 C Proper 26
Lessons	Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4 Psalms 37:1-10 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10	Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7 Psalms 111 2 Timothy 2:8-15 Luke 17:11-19	Jeremiah 31:27-34 Psalms 119:97-104 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Luke 18:1-8	Psalms 114, 115 Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14 Matthew 16:13-20	Sirach 35:12-17 Psalms 84:1-6 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Luke 18:9-14	Isaiah 1:10-18 Psalms 32:1-8 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12 Luke 19:1-10
Greeters	Paula & Bob Ross	Martha & Max Grice	Irene & Butch Yeager		Connie & Bob Anderson	Thelma Lomers
Lectors	Denise Dunham Mary Sheffield	Geri Moulton Connie Anderson	Pat Fulford Janet Buckley	Ron Brown	Kathe Gieseler Scott Escobio	Geri Moulton Bud McLean
Intercessor	Eugene Johnston	Ron Waites	Cheryl Winters-Heard		Connie Anderson	Mary Sheffield
Eucharistic Minister	Paula Ross Connie Anderson	Eugene Johnston Mary Sheffield	Geri Moulton Butch Yeager		Ron Brown Paula Ross	Connie Anderson Ron Waites
Eucharistic Visitor	Eugene Johnston	Paula Ross	Ron Brown		Ron Waites	Eugene Johnston
Altar Guild	Mary Sheffield Janet Buckley	Donna Waites Connie Anderson Jennifer Tarantole	Donna Waites Connie Anderson Jennifer Tarantole		Kim Partsch Irene Yeager	Kim Partsch Irene Yeager
Vestry Tellers	Bill Duke Ron Waites	Cindy Gass Ron Brown	Eugene Johnston Janet Buckley		Connie McLean James Christiansen	Bill Sundie Bill Duke



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Please join us at St. John's on Sunday, October 3 at 4:00 p.m. in the courtyard for a blessing of all of our furry, feathered and finned friends. All types of animals are welcome, but please respect others and leash or restrain your pets.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY— MCKEMIE PLACE

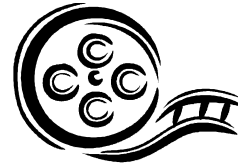
In a “good news/bad news” kind of way, McKemie Place, Mobile’s overnight shelter for unaccompanied, homeless women, has gone from accommodating 25 women per night to 60-70 per night. This means that the demand on those who provide the evening meal for the women has increased significantly. Redeemer feeds the women on the 4th Thursday of every month and has requested that we help them with that meal as we are able. If you would be willing to help out with a meal on occasion (perhaps dessert for 25 one month, for example), please contact Janet Buckley (443-7202) or sign the list on the bulletin board.



Episcopal
Relief & Development
Healing a hurting world

GIVE A PRESENT OF LIFE THIS CHRISTMAS

Ever have difficulty in thinking about a Christmas gift for someone? I know I do. You want to give something meaningful to someone who already has everything. Here is a solution that will maximize your gift and give them something they will never forget. This year's Episcopal Relief and Development's *Gifts for Life* catalog features items for everyone on your shopping list. Your generosity can provide individuals and entire communities with the essentials needed to pull themselves out of poverty. Go online to <http://www.er-d.org/GiftsForLife/> to select your Christmas gifts. Prices for gifts begin at \$12. *Gifts for Life* catalog will be available at St John's beginning the first week in November.



SATURDAY AFTERNOON AT THE MOVIES

The Parish Life Committee would like to know what you think about a revival of Saturday Afternoon at the Movies. Please leave a note in the parish office with what movies you would like to see and what “treats” should be served. Thank you.

Eugene Johnston



COURTYARD NOTES

After much thought and prayer, I have decided to give up trying to do the work in the courtyard. It's a rewarding job to see the results of your hard work, but it is now more than I can handle so I am passing the digging, weeding, planting, etc. on to someone else. I love doing it, but time does march on.

Joyce Lee

VENTURE CREW NEWS



Venture Crew 3 will hold a car wash fundraiser on Saturday, October 23 from 8am until 2pm. Please stop by St John's during your Saturday errands and let the boys clean your ride. They are asking for a \$5 donation and all proceeds will go the Crew's general operating fund.

Also, they are available for yard work. If you have mowing, edging, raking, trimming or pruning they are available for hire. Call Scott Escobio at 251-209-0295 to schedule the work.





Alice Walker	10/03	Audrey Meador	10/13
Jessica Sheffield	10/05	Shirley Hall	10/14
Meagan Partsch	10/08	LaVerne Foster	10/15
Alana Escobio	10/10	James Plash	10/17
Bob Anderson	10/11	Marietta Ford	10/30
Kay Meador	10/11	Audrey Garner	10/30
Marjorie Duhon	10/13	Gwen Johnson	10/31
Marjorie Mattoon	10/13		



Ron & Marie Brown	10/07
Christopher and Melissa Gass	10/08
Bud & Connie McLean	10/22

Directory Update

Please make the following change in the parish directory you received in May:

Jan Dabney
E-Mail: jsdabney@juno.com



For healing grace and continued strength, we pray for our members:

Lorraine Murray, LaVerne Foster, Ping Duke, Alice Schablinski, Bessie & Bill Southall, Leah Betts, Shannon Newberry

For our Homebound:

Alice Cieutat, Mae Dunn, Will Elam, Corinne Faust, Gwen Johnson, Violet Kosko, Margie Mattoon, Audrey Meador, Angela McGuire, Jane Tate Moore, Betty Plash, Dot & Chick Wohlert

For victims of war and their families, and members of our Armed Forces and their families:

Jeffery Yeager, Ellis Eugene Garner, Eric Mattoon, Cheryl Garner

For our Friends and Family:

Jesse Ferguson, Vernon Faulk, Walter Mayson, Mickey Benson, Velma Pearson, Martha Morget, Christina Morget, Betty & Gayle Chenoweth, Steve Weinstein, Mark Stiber, Mary Hoeberechts, Karen Twilley, Maddie West, John Hicks [priest], Robert Graves [priest], Jeffery Garner [priest]

Contact Us

Staff:

The Reverend Thomas Heard
Rector
rector@stjohnsmobile.org

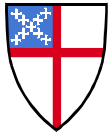
John L. Hobbs, Jr.
Organist/Choirmaster
music@stjohnsmobile.org

Lella Lowe
Financial Secretary
finance@stjohnsmobile.org

Jack Ruppe
Sexton

Vestry:

Ron Brown
Janet Buckley
James Christiansen
Bill Duke
Cindy Gass
Eugene Johnston
Connie McLean
Bill Sundie
Ron Waites



Saint John's Episcopal Church
1707 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36604

Nonprofit Organization
U.S.POSTAGE PAID
Mobile, Alabama
Permit No. 607

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Come Worship With Us!

Monday—Friday:

8:30AM Morning Prayer

Sunday:

9:00AM Adult and Youth Christian
Formation

10:00AM Holy Eucharist

Wednesday:

10:00AM Holy Eucharist;
Healing on the 1st
Wednesday of the month.

Other Feasts and Holy Days are
observed throughout the year; see our
website for the latest schedule.

Parish Office

Monday-Thursday

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Telephone: 251-479-5474

Fax: 251-473-1230

www.stjohnsmobile.org

Thee Store Episcopal Books

Mon-Wed & Fri:

10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Sundays after church
and by appointment

Telephone: 251-479-5086

SAINT JOHN'S: THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN MIDTOWN MOBILE
Grounded in shared sacramental life and moving into the world
to be the hands of Our Lord.