

# *The Hallowed Word*

## All Hallows Episcopal Church

November 2012

### **Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation of All Hallows Church was held on Sunday, October 28, 2012 with over thirty people in attendance. Major activities during the meeting included presentation and approval of the budget for calendar year 2012 and the election of two members of the Vestry. Ed Haile presented the budget, which was balanced and showed a relatively small increase in both income and expenses over the projected amounts for 2012. Ed noted that actual expenses for 2012 are running somewhat below budget, the amount used from income from the endowment is slightly less than projected, and the growth and income of the endowment was approximately as expected. The budget includes a line item of \$60,000 to cover all the potential expenses of a new rector. Complete copies of the budget are available from Ed. Elected to the Vestry were Kathy Fisher and Christina Gordy. They are replacing Dorothy Garret and Tom Gravenor, who have served for the last three years.

### **Senior Warden's Statement at the Annual Meeting**

All Hallows is known as one of the best parishes in this diocese, and it is because of who you are – each one of you. While working with the Search Committee over the past few months, I have been reminded of the loving work our rector has done and is doing. Over these years, he has encouraged each of us to be all we can be for our Lord. He has fed us well and has loved us into being a great family. Our time with Ken is growing shorter, but he continues to care for us as we prepare for the transition.

Again in the Search Committee, I have been reminded of the multitude of ministries which you perform. I have never known a group of people so conscious of the needs of those around them and so dedicated to giving themselves to meet those needs. As a parish we join to care for others. The ECW has many special ministries to our community and beyond. But I get just as excited when I look at you individually and see you reaching out to meet some challenge. Then when you need help, you share that need, and so many jump in to do God's work.

You know we are in a time of transition. Things will be changing, but you yourselves are the ministry of All Hallows. Ken has done so much for us while being a "part-time" minister. When our new priest arrives, we (continued on page 2)

### **Senior Warden's Statement** (continued from page 1)

will all be needed to share in his/her ministry as we introduce him/her to our community and continue our own outreach.

When you returned the surveys to the Search Committee, over half of you opted for a part-time rector. There are many reasons for this, but the hope is that we will continue to grow our parish as we reach out and draw others in. You each are a part of this ministry. We all share the joy when someone new joins us.

You all make up a very special family. We have so much to share, and that is why we will continue to make a difference in Snow Hill and beyond.

Thank you.

### **New Minister Search Committee**

The committee continues with the work of describing All Hallows and completing input to the diocese and to the National Church. A profile of the church has been completed and added to the All Hallows web site –[allhallowssnowhill.org](http://allhallowssnowhill.org). They have also been busy preparing a portfolio of materials for the National Church including a series of questions providing details on the characteristics and desires of the congregation for a new minister. This portfolio has been delivered to the diocese for review and approval. It will be forwarded to the church's national headquarters in New York City and will be entered to their web site. This site is available to any interested priest in the nation and is one of the prime sources for interested candidates. It is also likely that when the material has been reviewed by Bishop Shand, he will have other possible candidates.

### **Bishop's Annual Visit - Postponed**

The Rt. Rev. James Shand, Bishop of Easton, was scheduled to make his annual visit to All Hallows on Sunday, November 18. During the service he had planned to Baptize Tarsha Brooks and acknowledge a Reaffirmation of Faith by Nancy Blank. **However**, two weeks ago, the Bishop fell from a ladder while cleaning leaves from his gutter. He seriously broke his tibia just above the ankle and is facing surgery to install a metal plate. His roaming about the diocese will be limited for a while. A new date will be set when he has made a full recovery, and a new schedule will be planned and announced.

**We are God's beating heart.** We are here for a tune-up. Breathe deep and be not afraid, for God is at work in our midst. (Katherine Jefferts Schori)

### **Brief Biography – Ann Gibb**

Ann Gibb first got involved with All Hallows by attending church services and ECW meetings. At her first ECW meeting, Alice Tweedy was looking for someone to finish the needlepoint on the Bishop's kneeling pillow. Ann had done a cushion for her previous church, and she volunteered to finish the background for the pillow. It was the stitching of that pillow that made Ann feel like a part of the church.

At All Hallows, Ann has been a member of the vestry, Chairperson for the Long Range Planning Committee, a member of the Altar Guild and the current Search Committee. Ann served as Treasurer of the ECW for four years and has recently assumed the position of President. She has been chairperson for the Pancake Supper, served as a greeter during the church service and served as a lector.

Ann was reared in the Episcopal Church in Front Royal, a small town in Virginia. Her parents were both very active members of their church. Ann believes volunteering through the structure of the Episcopal Church is and always has been a way of life for her.

Ed Haile asked Ann to be a volunteer Lector. She had never done that before and was uncertain about her effectiveness in that role. She is glad Ed encouraged her to give it a try. He also asked her to serve on the vestry. Ann had done that before and felt she had something to offer this church as well.

Ann had a happy childhood and she has always enjoyed interacting with children. She spent 7 summers at a camp in West Virginia on the banks of the Greenbrier River. She was a counselor for 4 of those summers and became a certified rifle instructor for young campers. Later she spent 16 years teaching Computer Classes to Elementary and Middle School students at a private school in Virginia.

### **Memorial Search** (contributed by Kathy Fisher)

All Hallows has many items within the church which have been memorialized. Try to match the object with the quoted memorial statement. It may take some searching!

#### Objects:

1. Paschal Candle Stand
2. Baptismal Font
3. Memorial Board North of Front Doors
4. Memorial Board South of Front Doors
5. Marble Altar Reredos

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Memorials:

- A. "...Here Innocense and Beauty lies, whose breath was snatched..."
- B. "Given to the Glory of God and in memory of Alvin Tilghman"
- C. "...beneath this place her body lies. Lament her death with weeping eyes..."
- D. "...erected by the St. Agnes Guild to the Glory of God and in loving memory of The Rev. Ch. H. Williamson MD Rector of the Parish from December 5<sup>th</sup> 1872 until his death August 9<sup>th</sup> 1878."
- E. "A Memorial Offering from Henrietta Chaille Long October 1<sup>st</sup> 1877"

**Musings by Jim** (contributed by Jim Bosworth)

Concerning people with the name PARKER:

Thomas P. Parker, b. September 2, 1808, Snow Hill; d. February 15, 1882, Snow Hill; m. Eleanor A. Fleming, August 15, 1832, Snow Hill; b. May 5, 1809, Snow Hill; d. April 17, 1881, Snow Hill.

From the census records of 1850, the household consisted of:

Thomas P. Parker, age 41, Male Farmer, Real Estate Value: \$7,000, born in MD.  
Eleanor A. , age 41, Female, born in MD.  
Mary E. , age 14, Female, born in MD  
Wilmer F. , age 11, Male, born in MD.  
Sarah E. , age 7, Female, born in MD.  
Thomas H. , age 4, Male, born in MD.  
James Harmon , age 30, Male, Black Labourer, born in MD. Can't read.  
George Spence , age 13, Male Mulatto, born in MD.

It is interesting to note that Wilmer Fleming Parker was noted as a Lawyer in the 1860 census. He is buried here with his family. He was buried on December 26, 1865 and his tombstone states that he was assassinated in Mississippi. His sister Sarah Ellen Parker died in August 1854 apparently of some kind of epidemic; three others were buried the same day.

The obituary for Mrs. Eleanor A. Parker reads: Saturday, April 30, 1881 – Mrs. Eleanor A. Parker, d/o Joshua Fleming and Sally Porter Fleming, and consort of Col. Thomas P. Parker, was born in May 5, 1809, departed this life at her residence near Snow Hill on Easter Sunday, April 17, 1881, and hence was nearly seventy-two years of age. The occurrence was not unexpected, her disease having been chronic, or rather of a sub-acute character. This estimable lady, (cont. page 5)

**Musings by Jim** (continued from page 4)

whose life was spent in and near Snow Hill, was the mother of two daughters and two sons of whom the youngest is still living.

The obituary for Col. Thomas P. Parker reads: February 25, 1882 – Col. Thomas P. Parker (Grave #738) died at his residence near Snow Hill on Wednesday morning, February 15, 1882. He was born September 2, 1808 and therefore was 73 years of age at the time of his death. For a year or more his health has been feeble, and especially so after the decease of his estimable wife, Mrs. Eleanor A. Parker, which occurred ten months ago (April 17, 1881, Grave #739). This event affected him deeply and cast a shadow over his spirit which was evident to his friends and excited their sympathy....

Talk about graphic descriptions, the following two items appeared in the local papers in the 1880's: "At Nanticoke, Robert Alexander, aged 62, while in a melancholy mood, ended his life by shooting himself through the left temple. He died almost instantly." And, "A frightful accident occurred near Whaleyville, Thursday. Alexander Bruner was killed by the discharge of his gun, while he was loading. Bruner's head was almost entirely blown off.

Do you know what "Nervous Prostration" is? The definition reads: An emotional disorder that leaves you exhausted and unable to work. Nervous Exhaustion – extreme mental and physical fatigue caused by excessive emotional stress: neurasthenia.

**United Thank Offering was received November 11<sup>th</sup>**, but it is not too late to add your gift, marked for UTO, in the offering plate. The United Thank Offering was developed and administered by women; since 1889, offerings collected are sent to the UTO national office, which is entrusted to promote, receive and distribute the United Thank Offering monies through grants. The mission of the UTO is to expand the circle of thankful people through daily prayers, offerings and awareness of the abundance of God's blessings. UT O Boxes are available in the back of the Church. If you wish to mail a check, made payable to UTO, please send it to Mary Deitch, ECW Treasurer, 4269 Main Street, Chincoteague, VA 23336. For more information, visit [www.episcopalchurch.org](http://www.episcopalchurch.org) or google United Thank Offering.

**Median Attendance at a Sunday Service in The Episcopal Church is 65.**

### **Why go to church?**

If you're spiritually alive, you're going to love this!  
If you're spiritually dead, you won't want to read it.  
If you're spiritually curious, there is still hope!

### **Why Go To Church?**

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them.. So I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this... They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

When you are DOWN to nothing..... God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!

"When Satan is knocking at your door, simply say, **“Jesus, could you get that for me?”**

### **Calendar of Events**

#### Worship Schedule

November 18, Holy Eucharist, Rite II (NB: the Bishop's visit has been postponed)

November 25, Holy Eucharist, Rite II

December 2, Holy Eucharist, Rite I and Healing Service

December 9, Holy Eucharist, Rite II

December 16, Holy Eucharist, Rite II

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**Calendar of Events** (continued from page 6)

December 23, Holy Eucharist

December 24, Christmas Eve, 5 pm, Holy Eucharist, Rite II

December 24, Christmas Eve, 11 pm, Holy Eucharist, Rite II

December 30, Lessons and Carols

January 6, 2013, Holy Eucharist, Rite I and Healing Service

January 13, Holy Eucharist, Rite II

January 20, Holy Eucharist, Rite II

**It's What We Do** (from an article in *The Episcopal New Yorker* by the Rev. Martha Overall)

We feed people, clothe people, and much, much more as part of our ministry, because that's what Episcopalians do. In fact, it's not only what Episcopalians do; it's who we are. Because the services we provide are part of our faith, they are different from secular services.

The story is told of a third world country where villagers had to walk many miles to get food. A relief agency had an office by the road where its staff distributed food to the hungry. Farther down the road was a church, which also gave food to the needy. Many villagers chose to get their food from the church, rather than the secular agency. When an enterprising reporter asked what difference made them walk the extra distance to get the food from the church, the villagers explained that the difference is in the hands that give the food.

Our hands reach out in faith to those we serve. For Episcopalians, service is not an extension of our faith; it is an integral part of our faith and of our being. We have been baptized into Jesus Christ, whose essence is to spend himself for the sake of the world. When we offer help to people, we are fulfilling our baptismal covenant to "seek and serve Christ in all persons." Service brings us closer to God. My experience is that when we take care of people in God's Name, we are somehow provided with what we need. When God is in the work, it takes on an entirely different dimension.

The job that Jesus left us is to continue reconciling the world to God. That task clarifies that there is no separation between our spirituality and our ministry through providing social services. Spirituality is our essence, through which we reflect God's gracious gift of God's own self to us. We share that gift through the outpouring of our service to others, which helps to reconcile this world with the kingdom of God. For that reason, Jesus taught us to pray this way: Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

**Sunday Hunting** (contributed by Dave and Cate Easmunt)

In North Carolina, Sunday hunting was legalized last year for archery only.

I did all my prep-work . . .

I scouted the area all summer . . .

I searched out the best location for my tree-stand . . .

I set it all up a month ahead of time . . .

I trailed the herd . . .

I picked out a trophy buck . . .

Two days before opening day I rechecked every aspect of the hunt . . .

Everything was in place . . .

Sunday morning, I woke up at 2 am . . .

I put on my camo, loaded my pack, set out for my stand . . .

This was destined to be an epic hunt. . .

As I approached my deer stand . . .



I changed my mind - decided to go to church instead.