

The Hallowed Word

All Hallows Episcopal Church

September 2015

Introducing a New Venture at All Hallows

Last Spring, All Hallows was blessed to have 6 individuals approach me about entering the Episcopal Church through one of our sacraments. Three were asking for Holy Baptism, one was requesting Confirmation, and two adults were inquiring about becoming Episcopalians through the Rite of Reception. The Rite of Reception is for those who have already been baptized and confirmed in another part of Christ's Holy Catholic Church and would like to be received into the Fellowship of this Communion.

With summer rapidly approaching, and Bishop Parsley already booked to visit us in October, I thought it might be interesting to try a "one room school-house" approach. Meeting with our talented teacher, Jenny Donoway, we were able to design a program that would meet the needs of the individual as well as provide bonding time for adults and youth together, and between the adults or youth in the two small groups. Jenny offered to take the younger group and I would work with adults. We planned times when we could meet together and 5 times when the groups would be separated into appropriate learning groups.

One Sunday a month we sit around a table and enjoy pizza and conversation. Everyone has an opportunity to catch up on what's happened since we last met as



well as talk about what might be coming up. We have planned some activities to do together for our special day with the Bishop as well as things we will make and share with our congregation to illustrate what we all have been learning.

Jenny is definitely a gifted teacher who plans activities that give her young students time to

get up and move around—they usually have a walk around the inside of All Hallows to look closely and talk about all the things they’ve “found” in the church. The children have a series that includes a journal so they can record their own learning and thoughts as they reflect on living a Christian-Episcopalian life. She does give her group “homework” which they discuss during the next class.

I lead a discussion as we balance our own thoughts and feelings about the Episcopal Church and the materials we are reading in our book, *The Episcopal Handbook*. There are no limits to our discussions—we all have been on interesting journeys in our lives and reflecting on our faith has opened some wonderful doors to understanding our own faith and the call to enter the Anglican faith. Like the younger group, there is reading to do between meetings, and a lot of thinking goes into the discussions!

We all have a copy of the book *When the Bishop Comes to Visit*, which we use to prepare for the day when Bishop Henry visits us. The materials are well written and very inclusive to meet the questions and thoughts of our young people.

With only two classes left, we are busily planning the studies and activities that we would like to accomplish before October 25th. Jenny and I are also planning some “hands-on” activities so the congregation can see what we have been studying during this inter-generational class. The journey, however, will not end on that day—rather Jenny and I expect that their journeys will truly begin with that day! The young people will continue to learn and experience faith with Sunday school and church services...one has begun acolyte training and the others will follow. The adults have a genuine expression of faith which they see as a growing opportunity in their lives.

Please put Sunday, October 25 on your calendar! We need and want your support as this time of transition begins for all of us—in faith, joy, and prayer.

Thanks so very much for your support!

Jenny Donoway
Nanese Hawthorne, Rector

Baptism:

Raquel Thalia Creef-Meza – Sophomore 10th Grade

Joe Ludford Creef-Meza – 8th Grade

Victor Anthony Creef-Meza – 4th Grade

Confirmation:

Dominic Cucina – 9th Grade

Reception:

John-Anthony Meza

Stephanie Clayville

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Outreach

Church Periodical Club Chairman Nelson Payne expresses his greetings to fellow members of the club. Once again there is an opportunity to let you know that funds fell off for this past month. Now don't let that bit of news over excite you. It's a situation that generally shows up at this time of year. However, this is a chance to encourage our new and remind our current members about the purpose of this Ministry. The money collected in that beautiful glass jar on the table next to the church front door goes toward grants for our new seminary students to buy text books. The club at All Hallows has been active for several years, but the club is an Episcopal Church wide Ministry. Any monetary help will be appreciated. All donations in any amount for this Ministry are to Glorify our Lord and to help our Seminaries spread the Good News.

Summer Sunday School Report

The summer Sunday School classes met in July and August with an average of four school age children and two visitors. There were no classes on July 26 and on August 23. The classes began with saying the Lord's Prayer.

The Lesson Plan was based on the children's Christmas song "The 12 Days of Christmas." The learning activities included worksheets, picture books, using the Bible to find selected passages, and discussing the hidden symbolism of the 12 gifts. While discussing this counting song, the children learned that the words represented instruction of the Christian Faith.

In the Western Church, the Twelve Days of Christmas begin from December 25 until January 6. There is also a misunderstanding that the song is a nonsense song for children. But in truth, it is a song of Christian instruction dating back to the 16th century and the religious wars in England. These words were used to teach children their catechism in secret.

For example, the Partridge in a pear tree represents Jesus Christ whose birthday is celebrated on December 25, the first day of Christmas. The "me" receiving these gifts is every baptized person who is part of the Christian Faith. The pear tree represents the cross on which Jesus was crucified.

Katherine Gordon

Symbolism of the 12 Days of Christmas

Alexis Reyes

Day 1: The partridge is Jesus Christ, the Son of God, Who comes to us on the first day of Christmas. He is fittingly represented as a partridge, a bird which will feign injury in order to draw predators to itself and away from its young. Jesus offers Himself on the Cross, symbolized by the Pear Tree.

Day 2: The two turtle doves, who mate for life, were used for sacrifices to God. But here they represent the Old and New Testaments, which look to each other with admiration, and complement one another, and witness to the story of God.

Day 3: The three French hens symbolize the three theological virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity. French hens were very expensive, and only the rich could afford them.

Day 4: The four calling birds are song birds and symbolize the four Evangelists -- Matthew, Mark, Luke and John – because they spread everywhere the good news of the Gospel. “Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth; and their words unto the ends of the world.” (Psalm 18:5)

Day 5: The five golden rings symbolize the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible. These books tell the history of man from the creation to the time of Moses and the expectation of the Messiah that was accomplished in the birth of Our Lord. Gold rings are valuable and treasured as gifts, and the shape – a circle – has no beginning or end.

Day 6: Six geese a-laying are the six days of creation. The eggs of the geese hold the promise of life to come, which represents the maintenance and expansion of God’s creation.

Day 7: Seven swans a-swimming represent the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Day 8: Eight maids a-milking symbolize the eight beatitudes. The good that we can draw from the attitudes praised in the Sermon on the Mount are as rich and wholesome as our mother’s milk.

Day 9: Nine ladies dancing stand for the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit.

Day 10: Ten lords a-leaping are the Ten Commandments. If we keep these Commandments, we can leap from the bonds of this earth even to the heights of Heaven.

Day 11: Eleven pipers piping are the first eleven faithful Apostles.

Day 12: Twelve Drummers Drumming symbolizes the 12 points of doctrine in the Apostles Creed.

The Twelve Days of Christmas carol is familiar to many people and seems like a silly song. But it is more than a rhapsody of strange and delightful nonsense. It is a song of Catholic instruction believed to have been written by a Catholic Priest. It dates back to the 16th or 17th century during the time of religious conflict between the King of England and the Catholic Pope. This song was created as a memory aid to help children learn their Faith and not to draw suspicion to practicing Catholics. Many Catholics were put to death at this time, especially Catholic Priests.

The “true love” is no earthly suitor, but God Himself, Who gives His wondrous gifts to “me,” every baptized person. Why these particular ones were chosen is a mystery. The Pear Tree represents Jesus dying on the cross for our sins.

The symbols represent items many of the people at that time would have recognized. This silly child song would not have come to the attention of the King and his Council showing any disobedience.

ELDERLY

While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, ‘The tooth fairy will never believe this!’

(discovered and passed on by Arlene Thom)

Migrants and Refugees constantly fill the front pages of the papers.

To learn more about what the Episcopal Church is doing to assist the needs of the refugees, please visit the **Episcopal Migration Ministries** website:

<http://www.episcopalmigrationministries.org/>

John Thomas Parker (Tom) Dryden

18 May 1932 – 12 July 2015

Tom Dryden (83) of Orlando, FL, died peacefully Sunday after a long battle with cancer. He came from the Eastern Shore of Maryland, the child of the late Ewell and Mary Dryden, and was graduated from Western Maryland College and the Wharton Business School. He served as a 1st Lieutenant in the Army, stationed at Fort Knox, KY. Following his career at the Rohm & Haas Company Headquarters in Philadelphia, he and his wife Leah retired to Orlando in 1994. In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sons: John (Desiree) in San Diego, CA and Jeff (Heather) in Chattanooga, TN, as well as three grandchildren: Willem, Hannah, and Molly. He is also survived by his sister Emily Dryden Russell (Bill) of Chestertown, MD and two nephews: Bill (Mary Jo) and Sean (Andrea).

Tom was a member of the Church of the Messiah, Winter Garden, and was for many years the treasurer of West Orange Habitat for Humanity. He enjoyed genealogical research and hunting down distant cousins, along with reading about the Civil War and visiting battlefields. In accordance with his wishes, there will be no local celebrations of his life; graveside services will be held in MD at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to either the Church of the Messiah, Winter Garden, FL, or the Dr. John Thomas Parker Scholarship Fund, Washington College, Chestertown, MD, the scholarship which commemorates Tom's namesake: his Confederate surgeon grandfather.

We are proud of our family...Alex Dryden is now on the Faculty at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA, as Director of Clinical Training. He also has been assigned a group of Interns whom he supervises as they are working toward their doctorates. In addition, the administration at ODU has requested he assist them in teaching other doctoral candidates in the Consortium, of which he was a student at one time.

AND, he is on the Faculty at Eastern Virginia Medical School, his Alma Mater (where he received his Master's Degree in Art Psychotherapy) teaching a class entitled Psychopathology.

Happy Mom Tish reports, "He is the happiest I have seen him in years. And of course, when he's happy, I'm happy." And so are we all!

As always, our annual Church Picnic at Sturgis Park was a great time together.



Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Outreach

A thank you letter was received from Worcester County Gold, Inc., for the donation of \$100 toward their Annual Appeal campaign.

A thank you letter was received from the Snow Hill Food Pantry for the generous contribution to their project. Many of our congregation help sort and deliver the sorted food stuff each month.

A thank you card was received from Operation We Care acknowledging the donation of \$100 toward helping to send care packages to military personnel far from home.

HOLY HUMOR

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. “Is there anything breakable in here?” asked the postal clerk. “Only the Ten Commandments,” answered the lady.

A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn’t find a space with a meter. Then he put a note under the windshield wiper that read: “I have circled the block 10 times. If I don’t park here, I’ll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses.”

When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note. “I’ve circled this block for 10 years. If I don’t give you a ticket I’ll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation.”

Report from Church Finance Committee

The All Hallows Finance Committee met on August 3. One piece of business was to look at our portion of the Diocesan Apportionment for 2016. On June 6th, at a Special Convention, the delegates voted to move forward to call a new Bishop for our diocese. It was also resolved that each vestry provide a letter that commits to meeting 100% of their diocesan apportionment. Without the full participation, the Diocese of Easton would not be able to move forward as a sustainable diocese. At its June meeting, our Vestry discussed our willingness to support our diocese and, as is our tradition, pay the full amount of our portion.

We have received our apportionment and our Finance Committee has reviewed and approved to support the request. A letter signed by the rector and the senior warden was returned to the Diocesan office in Easton. The deadline was September 1, but many letters of acceptance were received as much as a month before then. When all the parishes respond, we can begin the important work of calling a bishop and moving forward.

Our apportionment for 2016 is \$17,666, which is higher than in the past; however our rector and Finance Committee feel this is an important and necessary cost to accomplish what our diocese needs for a new bishop who will lead us into our future. Vestry members agree.

We are looking forward to the opportunity to grow together as a diocese in faith and in the call Christ made to all the disciples, including us!

Operation We Care Sunday

We have set Sunday, October 11, as Operation We Care Sunday. The ministry sends individual packages to Service personnel every month, but in May and November there are GREAT shipments, always more than 600 boxes sent individually to Service personnel from this area. On Sunday, October 11, we ask you to contribute to this ministry by bringing item(s) for our Service members. In the laundry basket in the Parish Hall there are lists of the items which can be included. (If you know of a Service member from this area who is now overseas, please give the name and address to Bonnie, and she will pass it on to Jeff Merrit, director. We also take items to them every week since shipments are made monthly, so feel free to add your donations to the basket any time.

Episcopal Church Women will meet Monday, September 14, beginning with pot luck supper at 6 pm.

Would you like us to sing your favorite hymn? Make a note of the name and number and drop the paper in the gift bag on the shelf at the back of church.

RECALL NOTICE

The Maker of all human beings (GOD) is recalling all units manufactured, regardless of make or year, due to a serious defect in the primary and central component of the heart. This is due to a malfunction in the original prototype unit code named Adam and Eve, resulting in the reproduction of the same defect in all subsequent units. This defect has been identified as "Subsequential Internal Non-morality," more commonly known as S.I.N., as it is primarily expressed.

Some of the symptoms include:

1. Loss of direction
2. Foul vocal emissions
3. Amnesia of origin
4. Lack of peace and joy
5. Selfish or violent behavior
6. Depression or confusion
7. Fearfulness
8. Idolatry
9. Rebellion

The Manufacturer, who is neither liable nor at fault for this defect, is providing factory-authorized repair and service free of charge to correct this defect. The Repair Technician, **JESUS**, has most generously offered to bear the entire burden

of the staggering cost of these repairs. There is no additional fee required. The number to call for repair in all areas is: **P-R-A-Y-E-R**.

Once connected, please upload your burden of **SIN** through the **REPENTANCE** procedure.

Next, download **ATONEMENT** from the Repair Technician, **Jesus**, into the heart component.

No matter how big or small the **SIN** defect is, **Jesus** will replace it with:

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. Love | 6. Goodness |
| 2. Joy | 7. Faithfulness |
| 3. Peace | 8. Gentleness |
| 4. Patience | 9. Self Control |
| 5. Kindness | |

Please see the operating manual, the **B.I.B.L.E.** (BEST Instructions Before Leaving Earth) for further details on the use of these fixes.

WARNING: Continuing to operate the human being unit without correction voids any manufacturer warranties, exposing the unit to dangers and problems too numerous to list, and will result in the human unit being permanently impounded. For free emergency service, call on **Jesus**.

DANGER: The human being units not responding to this recall action will have to be scrapped in the furnace. The **SIN** defect will not be permitted to enter Heaven so as to prevent contamination of that facility. Thank you for your attention.

Signed,
GOD

P.S. Please assist where possible by notifying others of this important recall notice, and you may contact the Father any time by 'Knee mail'!

Because HE Lives!

(We have been holding on to this since it was shared with us by Ruth Bowie, over 2 years ago.)

Samaritan House, Pocomoke City, MD

What are you going to do with all those items you need to get rid of to make space, or the left over items from your Yard Sale, or household items you no longer can use or need? You may have a few options, but what about giving them to someone who would use them and be very appreciated for your gift.

The Samaritan House located in Pocomoke City would be a great option for your unwanted items. The need for paper products and personal hygiene products are high on their wish list. The list includes: household items, bedding, linens, toys, clothing for men, women and children. Nothing donated will be thrown away. The Samaritan House helps anyone who is in need by giving from their inventory of donated items. Next time you Spring, Fall, or whenever Clean, why not take those boxes to the Samaritan House in Pocomoke City, and as a bonus you can get a receipt for tax purposes. "I was hungry and you fed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was homeless and you gave me shelter..."

FOOD PANTRY WISH LIST

Peanut Butter and Jelly

Spaghetti Sauce (canned or jars)

Spaghetti

Canned Chicken, Tuna, Hams

Canned Vegetables (Green Beans, Corn, Peas, Carrots, Greens)

Medium sized boxes of cereal

Bags of beans or rice

Gift Cards for Office Supplies (Staples. Sam's Club)

Monetary Donations are always needed.

Please send check to:

Snow Hill Ecumenical Food Pantry

P.O. Box 165

Snow Hill, MD 21863

September Calendar
(with October Highlights)

September

6: 9:30 Rite 1 with prayers for healing following service

12: Cleaning of Holy Cross Chapel, 8 am

13: *Holy Cross Day*. 11 am Service at Holy Cross, Stockton, MD
All are Welcome; No service at All Hallows.

14: Garden Club meets 9-2

ECW covered dish dinner 6 pm with meeting to follow at 7 pm

20: 9:30 Holy Eucharist followed by Coffee Hour

Sacramental Formation Group meets noon-1:00

21: Vestry meeting, 7-9

27: 9:30 Holy Eucharist followed by coffee hour

October Highlights

4: Rector away; the Rev. Cuthbert Mandell celebrating

5: Finance Committee meets 6:30 pm

11: OPERATION WE CARE SUNDAY

Sacramental Formation Group, noon – 1:00

19: Vestry 7-9

25: Bishop Henry Parsley visits; 3 Baptisms, 1 Confirmation, 2 Receptions into the Episcopal Church