



St. Paul's Epistle

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Pine & Academy Streets
P.O. Box 602
Georgetown, DE 19947
Telephone: 302-856-2894
February 2010

www.stpaulsgeorgetown.org

e-mail: rector@stpaulsgeorgetown.org

Ephphatha, An Epiphany Awaits Us

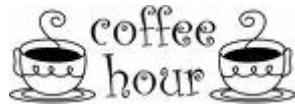
The Rev. Earl D. Beshears

They bring Jesus a man who is deaf and who has an impediment in his speech. "Ephphatha," Jesus tells the man. "Be open" Jesus says and immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.

"Ephphatha" is the Aramaic word for "be open." The man could not understand what was going on around him and Jesus said "ephphatha" and the man could hear and speak and understand. Ephphatha, be open, is crucial to living fully in the world. It is also a key to the spiritual world around us, to living fully in the presence of God. Moses knew ephphatha when he turned to and fell down before the burning bush and heard God speak to him. Samuel was ephphatha when he heard God call his name in the middle of the night – "Samuel, Samuel." Elijah was ephphatha when he heard God in the sheer silence. Mary was ephphatha when the angel Gabriel told her she would bear a son "and you will name him Jesus." The wise men from the east were ephphatha when they followed a star to Bethlehem and when they were ephphatha when they listened to their dream to go home a different way. Paul was ephphatha when he heard Jesus' voice ask "why do you persecute me?" Each of these incidents were epiphanies where God where God made himself manifest.

The Biblical witness is crowded with people who are ephphatha; people who are open to God, who have epiphanies – the revelation of God. We are in the season of Epiphany when we remember the multiplicity of ways God has manifested himself to the world. God continues to reveal himself to us in so many different ways when we are ephphatha. What better time for us to remember to be to be open, to be ephphatha.

The kingdom is very near, very near indeed. Ephphatha! Be open. God is speaking to you? How is God speaking to us? Ephphatha, be open – God is trying to get our attention.



Hospitality News

If your name does not appear on the monthly list posted in the Parish Hall for your birthday or anniversary, it is because the office does not have your information. We want to include you! Please give your information to Deby Daly so she can add you to our parish's main list.

Thanks for all of the tasty appetizers you brought in to share on January 10th. And thank you for filling in the gaps with your side dishes and desserts for the Annual Meeting on January 24th.

Dates to keep in mind for food, conversation, coffee and friendship:

February 7 – Soup and dessert. Bring a pot of VEGETABLE soup (with or without meat). All non-meat soups will be mixed together and all meat soups will be mixed together. Or bring a dessert. Bread and drinks will be furnished.

February 14 – Valentine’s Day. HOST NEEDED. We will collect the Hearts for Haiti boxes and the raffle drawing for the afghan will be held today.

February 21 – Birthday cake. HOST NEEDED

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Senior Warden’s Note

Since this is my last note to you as Senior Warden I feel that is the time to say thank you for all the support and encouragement that you have given me during my term of office. I have been so humbled by the comments and notes of thanks that I have received. Seldom do people that take on these positions get this kind of support. Thank you.

Some individuals that need special recognition are the other members of the vestry. This is a group that works well together and is always willing to take on anything asked of them. I especially want to thank Libby Stevenson. She has done a wonderful job as junior warden starting with the bathroom situation. Fred Dean does a phenomenal job as treasurer. Somehow he is able to keep it all straight and deals with a vestry that always seems to be saying “can you find the money for this”. My husband is always an important support for me and my work at St. Paul’s. I couldn’t do it without him.

It is people that make a parish and we are blessed with wonderful people. I truly believe that loving and caring for one another is what God is asking us to do. Thank you for showing me your love and support.

Bobbie Quillen
Senior Warden





On behalf of five patients affected by ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) including my son, Larry, and their care-givers, I would like to thank Chris Bennett, the Youth group, Jean Beshears and the other adults involved in making possible the gifts to these people, which obviously took many hours. New Years Eve was a very full and fulfilling day for Jean, her trusty GPS and myself, as we made our rounds with the stockings so lovingly put together. All of the people we visited were very touched and appreciative as they enjoyed the stocking gifts. Led by the adults, the youth at St. Paul's demonstrated a perfect example of compassion and giving to others (which is the real spirit of Christmas). May God bless St. Paul's and all those involved!

Mary Ann Torkelson



RENEWAL OF WEDDING VOWS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2010

Anyone wishing to renew their wedding vows is invited to participate in the Renewal of Wedding Vows which will take place during the 10:30 worship service on Sunday, February 14th. Several couples have already indicated that they wish to renew their commitment to their marriage.

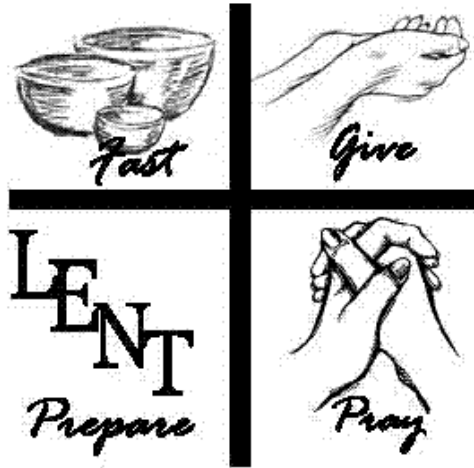
Please let Father Earl know no later than Tuesday, February 9th, if you wish to be included in this special occasion.

The February 2010 Parish Directory which lists names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses has been updated and is available in the vesting room. Please contact me by phone (856-2894) or e-mail (office@stpaulsgeorgetown.org) if there are changes you would like made to your listing. In addition, if you would like to be included in the parish e-mail system for general notifications and/or the prayer list, please let me know and I will be happy to take care of that.

God has richly blessed me with the ministry of becoming the Parish Administrator for St. Paul's. I look forward to serving Father Earl and you, our parishioners, in this capacity in the years to come. I will strive to do my very best.

I want to extend a very deep, heart-felt thank you to Vicki Reinsfelder, who did such a marvelous job at St. Paul's over the years. Vicki was very generous with her patience, knowledge, and praise while teaching me the ins and outs of the job and she continues to make herself available to me whenever I have a question. We are all blessed to have her in our lives and she is deeply missed by many.

- Deby Daly



WORSHIP & DEVOTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES DURING LENT 2010

Ash Wednesday worship – February 17, 7:30 a.m., noon and 7:00 p.m.

C. S. Lewis: Hope in a Troubled World – Monday nights during Lent at 7 p.m., beginning February 22nd through March 29th – In this discussion, we will read and discuss some of C. S. Lewis' essays on faith, which were written with the aim of using his insights to find hope in our troubled world. We will meet in the parlor.

Discipleship: Going deeper in scripture – Thursday nights at 7 p.m., beginning the Thursday before Lent (February 11th) through the first Thursday after Easter Day (April 8th) – We will begin a journey of becoming disciples through in-depth Bible study. This class requires a commitment to weekly class attendance, one hour a day study and preparation and daily prayer. Participants will sign a covenant before beginning the class. The class will meet in The Rev. Earl Beshears' home.

Renewal of Ordination Vows – Tuesday in Holy Week (March 30th) – Cathedral Church of Saint John, Wilmington. Join Earl, Larry and Rita as they renew their ordination vows.

Maundy Thursday Worship – Thursday, April 1st at 7 p.m. – Wesley United Methodist Church will join us at St. Paul's for this worship.

Good Friday Worship – Friday, April 2nd at noon – Good Friday worship and Stations of the Cross through the streets of Georgetown – worship will begin at Wesley United Methodist Church.

Holy Saturday Worship – Saturday, April 3rd at 9 a.m.

Let's Not Worry – Debi Goebel

Let's not worry so much about chasing after the American Dream. Let's not worry about whether we have prime rib for dinner or macaroni and cheese. Macaroni and cheese is just as nourishing. And let's not worry about whether we are wearing the same clothes we wore last year. After all, shouldn't we be more concerned that we all have healthy bodies than with what we put on them?

See the birds singing outside the window! They're well fed with what they gather on the ground. They're content with what God provides for them and never waste their days scrambling after more than they need. Don't you think God loves us even more than these birds! Of course he does! He put us in a world where there is more than enough to meet everyone's needs – as long as no one takes more than he needs.

Look, if we make it our priority to work our lives away for so much more than we need, will that add even one minute more to our lives? No. In fact, it will rob us of the time we could have spent with our friends, our family, and most importantly, with God. And why should we worry about whether we have the biggest house on the block anyway? Look at the birds! They work to build comfortable nests for their offspring, but don't go busting their beaks 24/7 in order to build a larger nest than their neighbors! And what about the grass outside in the yard! It's lovely, vibrant and green, and yet it's destined only to be cut and mulched! If God makes even the grass under our feet beautiful to look at, how beautiful are we in his eyes, even in last year's clothes! So let's not worry and say "How will we afford payments for a new car?", when our old car is still in good shape. And let's not worry and say, "How will we afford a vacation this summer?", when we have stunning sunsets right in our own back yard!

We aren't like those people who care only about accumulating as many possessions as possible, even at the expense of others. We're different. We're disciples of Christ.

Besides, isn't the good life more than having a new car every year, or a huge house, or the latest technology?

Of course, God knows that we have needs. He knows that we have to work to support our families. Even the birds have to get up early to look for worms! But why should we spend our lives in pursuit of far more than we need, when more than enough won't make us any happier?

Christ asks us to stop chasing after the ultimately unattainable dream of a nation, and to make the Kingdom of God our priority. This doesn't mean that we quit our jobs, and expect God to make food appear on our tables and clothes on our backs. The Kingdom of God isn't a place where we do nothing and God waits on us hand and foot! It's a place where we deal fairly and justly with our neighbors and share God's blessings with all. And Christ promises us that if we strive for the Kingdom of God first, we will be building a peaceful and just world where there will be enough food, enough housing, enough medicine, and more than enough love to go around!

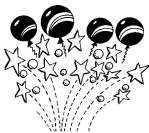




Regular Monthly Meeting, is held on the first Saturday of the month. Our next meeting will be on February 6, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. For more information, contact Debi Goebel at 302-337-8285 or The Rev. Earl Beshears at 302-856-2894.



St. Paul's commitment for Meals on Wheels is the week of February 15th. If you can help, please call Doris Hickman at 253-0621. This is a very rewarding ministry!



February's Birthdays

- 01 Jo Dryden
- 05 Shirley Goodwin
- 10 Mary Ruckman-Kruger
- 14 Mary Anne Elliot
- 17 Chris Bennett
- 21 Georgia Kruger
Linda Belkot
- 22 Dara Donaway
Kyle Odenwelder
- 23 Hannah Goebel
Maureen Leary
- 25 Lit Dryden
- 26 Karen Swartout

February Anniversaries

- 14 Harrison & Donna Littleton
George & Libby Bayley
- 20 Bill & Aileen Watkins

newsletter must be received no later than the 18th of the month preceding publication (e.g., Feb. 18 for March's issue.) Please e-mail your articles to Deby @ office@stpaulsgeorgetown.org or put them in her mailbox in the office.

The Collect for Saint Paul's
Gracious God, through your Fatherly goodness, make Saint Paul's an inviting, welcoming and nurturing community for all to worship you; enrich our life in Christ, that we might encourage and support the ministry of everyone at Saint Paul's, clergy and laity; and send your Holy Spirit to give us strength and courage to proclaim the Good News of your love through word and deed. Amen.



Tyson Prepared Foods, Inc.



First Steps/Primeros

Pasos

is collecting all *Campbell's* labels and the *clip* and save part of the label from any *Tyson* foods. This will give them the opportunity to earn "FREE STUFF!". **Please leave your labels at the church office and Deby will see that the day care receives them.**

St. Paul's Epistle is a monthly publication of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Submissions to the



THOUGHTS ABOUT ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

Nobody knows for sure who St. Valentine was. He might have been any one of two or three different people or "(d) None of the above." We also don't know how he became connected with a celebration of our love for each other. Sure, there are legends about poor girls and dowries, but they are of much later origin than the first century martyrs that carried the name.

We do know that there have been celebrations of a day of love and friendship in almost every present and historical culture. Many of these days of celebration occur in the very early Spring. Spring seems a season of hope and promise and a fitting time to celebrate this so-human condition.

We are creatures of relationship and community -- even if the community is two of us. The urge to celebrate this thing which helps define us as human beings is, apparently, universal. The modern world, its communication and interaction, reminds us that our "community" in the year 2010 is the entire world. It is a good thing to think about this Valentine's Day: To heed Christ's words to "love one another" and the whole of the human race as he loves us.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Love,

Jean Beshears
Episcopal Peace Fellowship

"Georgetown has talent"
Sponsored by Georgetown Ministerium
Community dinner & talent show

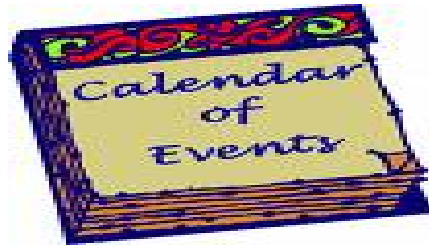
Dinner 6-7 p.m. (catered by Georgetown Family Restaurant)

Show 7-8:30 p.m. – all LOCAL talent – door prizes

To be held at Grace United Methodist Church, 7 s. king street, Georgetown

\$20/person – ADVANCE SALES ONLY
Benefits the fuel needs of our church community

Contact mary ann Torkelson by February 5th for tickets



February 2010

- Feb 1 – Life Line Screening, 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Feb 6 – EPF meeting, 10:00 a.m.
 - Worship Committee Meeting & Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.
Feb 7 – Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany
Feb 9 – Book Club: *Modoc* by Ralph Helfer
Feb 10 – Vestry 7:00 p.m.
Feb 11 – Discipleship study, 7:00 p.m. at the Beshears' home – see Father Beshears for information
Feb 14 – The Last Sunday After the Epiphany
Feb 16 – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
Feb 17 – Ash Wednesday
Feb 18 – Discipleship study, 7:00 p.m. at the Beshears' home
Feb 20 – Youth Group Lock-In, 5:00 p.m.
Feb 21 – The First Sunday in Lent
Feb 22 – Monday Night Live, 7:00 p.m. – Discussion of C. S. Lewis's "Hope in a Troubled World"
Feb 23 – Standing Committee Meeting
Feb 25 – Discipleship study, 7:00 p.m. at the Beshears' home
Feb 28 – The Second Sunday in Lent

Monday - Monday Night Live, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday - Holy Eucharist, 7:30 a.m.
 Tai Chi, 9:30 a.m.

Thursday - Choir practice, 7 p.m.

Saturday - Men's Group, 8 a.m.- join us for a brief devotional, coffee, conversation, and the occasional joke.
 Prayer Group, 9 p.m. - meet in the parlor, share prayer concerns, prayer practices and experiences

Sunday - Bell Choir practice, 9:15 a.m.

St. Paul's Book Club

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m.



- Tues. Feb 9th – *Modoc* by Ralph Helfer
Tues. Mar. 9th – *Eat, Pray, & Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert
Tues. April 13th – *The Help* by Katherine Stockett
Tues. May 11th – *The Lost Symbol* by Dan Brown
Tues. June 8th – *The Memory Keepers Daughter* by Kim Edwards

Please join us. Everyone is welcome!

Through the Bible this Year

Sunday & Ash Wednesday Lectionary Readings for February

In readiness for your Sunday proclamation as a Lector or for your own spiritual preparation and reflection on the upcoming Sunday's lessons, the lectionary reading for each month will be included in the newsletter.

Feb 07 – V Epiphany – Isaiah 6:1-13; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

Feb 14 – Last Sunday Epiphany – Exodus 34:29-35; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-43

Feb 17 – Ash Wednesday – Joel 2:1-2 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Feb 21 – I Lent – Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

Feb 28 – II Lent – Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35

Big and Little Kids Page



As we celebrate St. Valentine's Day this month let us also remember God's amazing love for us. John 3:16-21 tells us about God's amazing love. To solve the puzzle, first work the math problems. Then beginning with the answer that is 1, write the words in order on the lines below.

11+11=___ 5+6=___ 0+3=___ 28-20=___ 19+1=___ 4+2=___
PERISH ONE SO HE SHALL WORLD

98-85=___ 21-5=___ 25-2=___ 13+13=___ 13-3=___ 3+1=___
ONLY WHOEVER BUT LIFE HIS LOVED

11-10=___ 45-30=___ 9+8=___ 36-15=___ 23-21=___ 49-42=___
FOR THAT BELIEVES NOT GOD THAT

30-18=___ 38-20=___ 75-50=___ 10-5=___ 40-21=___ 6+8=___
AND IN ETERNAL THE HIM SON

4+5=___ 8+16=___
GAVE HAVE



Just a Reminder

**Take a book,
Bring a book.**

You may have noticed there is still a bookcase located in the hallway outside the church office. Just place your books in the bookcase. That way, someone else will have the opportunity to read it. They don't have to return it if they don't want to... they can just pass it on. And you just may see something you would like to read. Help yourself! (You don't have to bring a book to take one.)

Submitted by Deby Daly



On February 20th – 21st, the Youth Group will have a lock-in at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. The activities will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday night and finish up after the 8 a.m. worship on Sunday morning.

Dinner will be provided at the church on Saturday evening. Breakfast will be served Sunday morning before the worship service.

On Saturday night, the kids will have fun playing cards and board games. We will have Wii competitions and will watch a movie later in the evening.

Parental permission slips are required and can be found on the church web page under the youth group heading @ <http://www.stpaulsgeorgetown.org/Youth.htm>.

Anyone wishing to help with the youth or who have ideas for fun outings for future dates, please contact me at 855-5756.

God bless all the little children,

Chris Bennett
Youth Group Leader



St. Paul's Vestry Team

Russ Henk, Sr. Warden - 2013
Chris Bennett, Junior Warden - 2011
Fred Dean, Treasurer
Aileen Watkins, Assistant Treasurer – 2011
Deby Daly, Clerk
Bill Whelen - 2011
Jayne Sheahan - 2012
Debra Goebel - 2012
Chris Bennett – 2012
Fred Seth – 2013
Janet Jones - 2013

Organizations using the Facilities

A.A. Meetings

A.A. Inner Group. 1st Thurs. 5:30-7:30 PM
Sat. Women's Group -11 AM

NA Meeting

Sun. 6 PM

Thurs. 7 - 8 PM

N A - Restore to Dignity

Sun. 6:30 - 7:30 PM

Girl Scouts

Mon. Troop 846, 6:30 - 8 PM

Grandparents Support Group

2nd and 4th Wed - 6:30 PM

Fri. Troop 757 - 6:30 - 8 PM

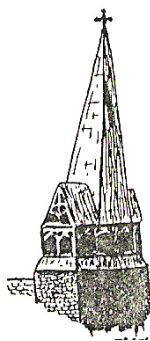


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Rector - The Rev. Earl Beshears

(rector@stpaulsgeorgetown.org)

Associate Priest - The Rev. Larry Hofer

Associate Priest - The Rev. Rita Nelson

Organist - Ms. Jo Dryden

Parish Administrator – Ms. Deby Daly

Office email: office@stpaulsgeorgetown.org

Worship Schedule

Sunday

8:00 A.M Holy Eucharist

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist with choir & music

Wednesday

7:30 AM Holy Eucharist

Christian Formation

Sunday: Youth Sunday School 9:30 AM

Monday: Monday Night Live

Adult Bible study, discussion, prayer, and spiritual development, 7:00 PM

Saturday: Men's group 8:00 AM

Prayer Group 9:00 AM