



# TIDINGS

The Newsletter of Christ Church – St. Michael's Parish (Episcopal)

March 2012

## Our Annual Children & Youth Sunday

*Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 AM*



When you look around, you realize that our parish is made up of people of all ages. On Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, *Children & Youth Sunday*, the second service will highlight our children and youth as they serve as greeters, ushers, acolytes, lectors, and preacher. Our guest preacher at both 8 AM and 10:15 AM is Rite-13 member Riley Weller, a sophomore at St. Michaels Middle-High School. Following the 10:15 AM service, cider and refreshments will be served upstairs in the Christian Formation classrooms in the parish house. All are warmly invited to tour the classrooms and the Children's Chapel. So, join us on the 4<sup>th</sup> and learn more about our children!

## Fabulous Fish Fry Fiesta for El Hogar

Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>

First Seating: 5:00 – 6:00 PM

Second Seating: 6:30 – 7:30 PM



Tickets at the door: Adults, \$12; Children (under 10), \$7

Please join us once again for our 7<sup>th</sup> annual Fish Fry Fiesta to raise funds for El Hogar in May. As a special treat, we will be joined by the Rev. Matthew Engleby, Executive Director of El Hogar. This is always a fun event and helps to support the boys and girls of El Hogar in Honduras.

## Holy Week Services

Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>  
Palm Sunday

- 8:00 AM Liturgy of the Palms, Holy Eucharist & Sermon
- 10:15 AM Liturgy of the Palms, Holy Eucharist & Sermon
- 5:00 PM Evensong *John Donne, 1631*

Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>  
Maundy Thursday

- 6:00 PM Agape Meal – Etherton Hall
- 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Liturgy
- 8:00 PM Vigil/Night Watch  
*(thru 11 AM on Good Friday)*

Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>  
Good Friday

- 12:00 PM Good Friday Liturgy
- 5:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>  
Holy Saturday & Easter Eve

- 8:00 PM The Great Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter

Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>  
Easter Day

- 6:00 AM Sunrise Service at CBMM
- 8:00 AM Easter Eucharist & Sermon
- 9:30 AM Easter Family Eucharist with Children's Homily & Choirs
- 10:30 AM *Easter Egg Hunt*
- 11:00 AM Festal Easter Eucharist with Sermon & Choir

*N.B. The Parish Office is closed from Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.*

Monthly Evensong March 4<sup>th</sup>  
*"John & Charles Wesley" at 5 PM*

*Sparkling Water & Sherry will be served following the service.*

**Christ Church – St. Michael's Parish**  
**103 Willow Street, P.O. Box S**  
**St. Michaels, MD 21663**  
**Tel: 410-745-9076 Fax: 410-745-5760**  
**e-mail: [info@christstmichaels.org](mailto:info@christstmichaels.org)**

Office Hours: 9:00AM – 4:00PM, Monday-Thursday  
Weekly Service Schedule:  
Morning Prayer – 9:00AM Mondays through Fridays  
Holy Eucharist (Londonderry) – 1:30PM 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays  
**Sunday Services: 8:00AM & 10:15AM**

Submissions to the *TIDINGS* monthly parish newsletter are due on the **10<sup>th</sup> of the previous month**. Please email items for publication to [peterhouck@aol.com](mailto:peterhouck@aol.com) or leave in newsletter editor's mailbox located at the parish house

Newsletter editor: Peter Houck



## **The Holy Spirit: *Ensuring Change for Over 2,000 Years***

Last month, as a birthday present from my sister-in-law and her partner, I received a copy of Verdi's *Un Ballo in Maschera* recorded at the Metropolitan Opera in 1955. As you can imagine with a recording of that age, the quality is not what we expect today, and you can hear an occasional cough from the audience. What makes the recording so important, however, isn't the particular opera or the recording quality, but what it marked: contralto Marian Anderson's debut at the Met in 1955 -- the first time that an African-American artist had appeared in a leading role at the Met. (Camilla Williams had been the first African-American to sing with a major company when she sang the role of Cio-Cio-San in *Madama Butterfly* with the New York City Opera in 1946). Followed by artists such as Betty Allen, Leontyne Price, Shirley Verrett, Jessye Norman and Kathleen Battle, we may take for granted when we see Danielle de Niese in *The Enchanted Island* that African-American singers have always been welcome on the Met's stage. Obviously, this was not the case.

The world of major league professional sports was no different, in that major league baseball, football and basketball did not have an African-American athlete until after the Second World War, when Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in major league baseball. Breaking the color barrier, of course, did not bring an end to rampant racism. I recall as a young boy growing up in Atlanta in the 1970s that Henry "Hank" Aaron regularly received death threats from those folks who did not want to see Babe Ruth's "'sacrosanct' home run record shattered by some *nigger*". It was while listening to Marian Anderson's recording during a drive up to BWI that I found myself thinking of how we tend to assume that the conservative repetition of the past precludes our ability to envision a better future. For example, the opera world, the NFL, Major League Baseball, the NBA, and our country in general are all so much stronger because of the inclusion of other races in our culture.

In February, during the monthly clergy gathering at the Diocese, we were asked to ponder the themes of *Vocation*, *Households*, *Fruitfulness* and *Mutual Blessing* for theological reflection. The topic for the discussion was General Convention's Resolution 2009-C056, concerning liturgies, or services, for blessing same-gender unions. Increasingly, states are adopting legislation allowing for couples of the same sex to either enter into a union or marriage that carries with it the same benefits and recognition that married heterosexual couples receive. And like any change, Christians and people in general may come down on different sides of the issue. My sense is that this will continue to be a difficult -- even painful -- discussion for some people of faith. At the same time, I think that the life experiences of many of our parishioners, the witness we have seen from some of our own parishioners who have modeled monogamous, committed relationships with their same-gender partners, and the changing generational demographic portend a trajectory in the church that leads us to approving rites that will complement what is happening at the state level and allow the Episcopal Church to ask for God's blessing on all marriages and unions that are entered into intentionally, faithfully and lovingly. The syndicated conservative columnist George Will wrote that while gay marriage may be an issue for people over fifty, by the time you get to the typical high school or college student, "being *gay* is about as interesting as being *left handed*."

Having grown up in Georgia, I was surprised to learn later on in life that miscegenation laws in Georgia prohibited people of different races from marrying (primarily "Coloreds" and "Whites"). These laws stayed on the books until the late 1960s and were supported by much of the Christian establishment. Eventually, the state and the church had a change of heart -- conservative repetition of the past was left behind in favor of momentous change. I think that our faith in God, our commitment to Jesus Christ, and our trust in the Holy Spirit are meant to both challenge and comfort us. Our faith and commitment stretch us beyond our own stereotypes and prejudices and comfort us in our brokenness and our constant need for healing. As the Episcopal Church considers these new rites, I believe that God is always with us and trust that, to quote from the Acts of the Apostles, "if this plan or undertaking is of human origin, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow [it]." -- Mark Nestlehutt

## The Search for a New Assisting Minister

In January the position announcement for an Assisting Minister/Associate/Curate was posted on the National Church's OTM, or Office of Transitional Ministry, website. To date, we have received several resumes and OTMs from candidates; some seasoned veterans and other who are about to graduate from seminary and be ordained in May or June. I have been in contact with these candidates by email or telephone already. During last month's Wardens' meeting, Jim McCloud, Judy Sandground and I agreed to set March 1st as our deadline for receiving names for candidates. At that point, I, along with an advisory search committee, will begin reviewing the candidates' materials and scheduling formal interviews. Our goal is to have a new assistant on staff by late spring. This is an exciting time at Christ Church, filled with new possibilities, so please hold us in your prayers as we begin our discernment in calling a new clergy person to join our staff. -- Mark Nestlehutt

## Christ Church Welcomes the Reverend Matthew Engleby, *Executive Director of El Hogar Projects in Honduras*



This year at our annual fabulous "Fish Fry Fiesta" for El Hogar, we welcome a very special guest, Matt Engleby, Executive Director of El Hogar Projects in Honduras. Matt will be with us for the March 23rd fish fry and then again on Sunday the 25th as our guest preacher and Adult Forum speaker. Prior to joining El Hogar in April of last year, Matt served parishes in Denville and Bernardsville, New Jersey and also had served as a Peace Corp volunteer in Guatemala.

Since 2005, Christ Church has sent annual parish Work Teams to El Hogar in Tegucigalpa. Through our connection with El Hogar, our ECW and several returning team members have chosen to sponsor a student at the school. Our 2006 Work Team returned from El Hogar with the vision of building a dental clinic on the campus. Ten months and \$75,000 later, that vision became a reality. Throughout the year dental teams from across the U.S. make weeklong visits to El Hogar to provide dental care for the 200-plus boys and girls. Just last year, one of our parish families made an unrestricted \$100,000 gift to El Hogar. As you can see, Christ Church is deeply connected to El Hogar's ministry, its children and staff.

Unfortunately, the violence in Honduras has continued to increase rapidly during the past year or more. The U.S. State Department issued a travel advisory warning U.S. citizens not to travel to Honduras, and in January, the Peace Corp recalled all of its volunteers from Honduras. Closer to home, last month Natalie Allen, sister of the Episcopal Bishop of Honduras Lloyd Allen, was stabbed to death by robbers when she returned home from a meeting. While we were scheduled to send another work team in May -- accompanied by Bishop Shand -- we have decided not to do so for this year given the circumstances.

As you can imagine, the impact of parishes and other organizations not sending work teams will have an adverse effect on El Hogar. For that reason we are trying to raise additional monies this year to assist El Hogar during this difficult time. So, we ask two things of you: (1) continue to hold the boys and girls of El Hogar in your prayers; and (2) please join us in welcoming the Reverend Matt Engleby to Christ Church this month. For more information about El Hogar, please speak with parishioners Bill Corba or Alison Sanford. Details on the Fish Fry follow.

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, March 23

***Fabulous Fish Fry Fiesta!*** As noted on the cover, it's time to mark your calendars for the seventh annual Fish Fry to support the boys and girls of El Hogar, and this time also to welcome El Hogar's Executive Director, the Rev. Matt Engleby. The menu will feature delicious fish, macaroni and cheese, green beans, coleslaw, baguettes, desserts and beverages. Wine and beer will be available also. There will be two seatings: at 5:00 PM and 6:30 PM. The cost is \$12 per person, \$7 for children under ten and no more than \$35 per family. If you would like to help the work team with this event, please see Bill Corba or Alison Sanford. Please also see Bill Corba's report of his Nov. 2011 trip to El Hogar in this issue.



## 12<sup>th</sup> Vestry Member Elected by 2012 Vestry

Congratulations to Pat Martin, who was elected to replace our new Junior Warden, Carolyn Wasdyke, on the Vestry. With Bev Kegan, Pat will serve as liaison for Parish and Community Life.

## Sunday Morning Adult Forums in March

***Lenten Series: "Three Faiths, One God"*** – February 19<sup>th</sup> through March 18<sup>th</sup>

- March 4<sup>th</sup> "Christianity, God & a New Covenant" – The Reverend Mark Nestlehutt  
March 11<sup>th</sup> "Islam, God & the Qur'an" – Ermin Sinanovic, *U.S. Naval Academy*  
March 18<sup>th</sup> "The Abrahamic Faiths—Final Thoughts & Questions" – Doris Fink  
March 25<sup>th</sup> "New Beginnings at El Hogar" – The Reverend Matt Engleby, *Executive Director*

*Sunday Morning Adult Forums meet in Etherton Hall during the Christian Formation Hour from 9:15-10 AM.*

## Covenant Churches of St. Michaels Lenten Series

On Tuesday evenings during Lent the churches of St. Michaels and the surrounding communities gather for a simple supper, program and common worship. Dinner begins at 6 PM and the program begins at 6:30 PM. On February 28<sup>th</sup> we met at Royal Oak Community Church. Join us this month at these locations:

- March 6<sup>th</sup> – Christ Church – St. Michael's Parish  
March 13<sup>th</sup> – New St. John's UMC – Wittman  
March 20<sup>th</sup> – St. Luke's UMC – St. Michaels  
March 27<sup>th</sup> – Union United UMC – St. Michaels



## March Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Birthdays

|      |  |      |  |
|------|--|------|--|
| 3/2  | Roger Clark, Jackson McKay, Peg Orem                                 | 3/16 | Frances Maffitt, Louise Woods                        |
| 3/3  | Connie Lindeman, Alice Utterback                                     | 3/17 | Geoff Garner   |
| 3/4  | Bill Magrath, Charlene Woodard                                       | 3/19 | Gillian Lewis  |
| 3/6  | Joan Schneider   | 3/21 | Pat Janson   |
| 3/7  | Margie Steffens  | 3/22 | Gary Clarke, Claudia Frantz, Judy Hause, Marge Rue   |
| 3/8  | Lesley Moyer, Ray Wasdyke  | 3/23 | Susan Armstrong                                      |
| 3/9  | Rick Morgan, Sarah Peterson  | 3/24 | Bert Boon  |
| 3/10 | Margaret Naeny   | 3/25 | Tony Vaughn  |
| 3/11 | Mary Ellen Olcese  | 3/27 | Reilly O'Neill                                       |
| 3/12 | Martha Austin  | 3/29 | Sue Kilmon, Anne Pilert, Maye Soulsman, Thomas Stolz |
| 3/13 | James Keating, George Raitt  | 3/30 | Karen Burger, John Masone, Sid Smith                 |
| 3/14 | Mary Garner, John Loflin, Penny Rhine, Ryan Stacey, Thomas Stevenson | 3/31 | David Frantz   |
| 3/15 | Lisa Rey   |      |  |

**Anniversary:** 3/22 Shannon & Mary Jane Wyant

## Save the Dates: Spring Rummage Sale, April 20th and 21st

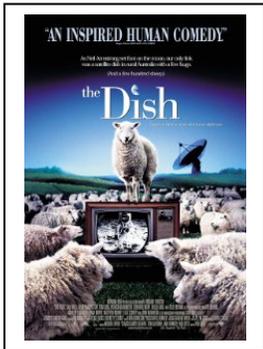
Time to begin setting aside items and gently used clothing articles to contribute to the Spring Rummage Sale, which will be held April 20-21, with collection days April 16-18. For further information, please call Carol McCanna at 410-745-5373.

Right: photo taken at the Fall 2011 Rummage Sale by Bud Keiser



## Lenten Series: Popcorn Theology

How often do you notice the ethical, religious or spiritual dimensions or allusions in a movie? Have you ever wondered what others might think of the same film? If so, please join us on the remaining four Mondays during Lent for our annual Lenten series, Popcorn Theology! Movies begin at 7:00 PM and soda and popcorn are provided (please feel free to bring your own alternative beverage). This Lent we offer a mix of films from Australia and New Zealand. We saw the first film, **Breaker Morant**, Feb. 27. Below are the remaining four, all in March.



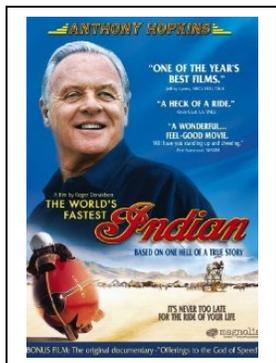
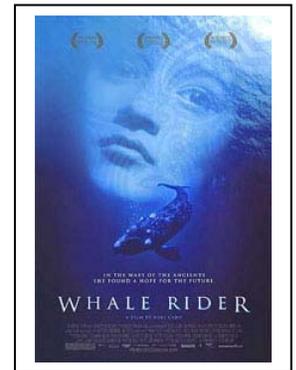
### **The Dish (2000) PG-13**

This film is an account of three Australian scientists and their NASA representative who endeavored to bring the world live shots of man's first walk on the moon during the Apollo 13 space mission. (Running time is 101 minutes)

**Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>**

### **Whale Rider (2002) PG-13 Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**

Set on the east coast of New Zealand, Whale Rider tells a story of love, rejection and triumph through the eyes of a 12 year-old Maori girl. The film is based on the novel, *Witi Ihimaera*. (Running time is 101 minutes)



### **The World's Fastest Indian (2005) PG-13**

**Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>**

This film is about the life story of New Zealander Burt Munro who worked for years to rebuild a 1920 Indian motorcycle in an effort to set a land speed record. (Running time is 126 minutes)

### **Flirting (1991) R**

**Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**

Set in an Australian boarding school in 1965, this charming story follows the misadventures of the adolescent Danny Embling, who has the misfortune to be both bright and sensitive, putting him seriously at odds with his masculine peers. He finds love with an outcast at the neighboring girls' boarding school, the daughter of a diplomat from Uganda. Nicole Kidman has a supporting role as a snobbish older boarding school girl, not quite as bad as she seems. Tender and amusing, this is the second of director Duigan's coming-of-age trilogy, preceded by "The Year My Voice Broke." (Running time is 99 minutes)



# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

## Christian Formation for Children

-- Lee Thomas

We'll start things off this

month with our annual Youth Sunday on March 4<sup>th</sup> when we highlight the younger members of our congregation in all aspects of the service during the Parish Family Eucharist at 10:15. To celebrate the occasion, the children and Church School leaders invite everyone to a special "Come up to the Classroom" Open House following the 10:15 service. Please join us upstairs in Etherton Hall to share fellowship with our children as they host the event. We hope to see some of our "8 o'clockers" upstairs too! **Right:** Church school photo made by the author.



On the 11<sup>th</sup>, we'll be in the kitchen during the 10:15 service, baking pretzels in observance of Lent. They actually do look like arms folded in prayer! Later in the month, our activities will be in preparation for Easter, and we'll be gathering artwork for the creation of a new set of note cards designed by our children. Look for them to debut at the rummage sale in April!



Preparing dinner for guests of TIS

## Rite-13 Youth Group News

On Sunday, January 22nd, eight members of the youth group, plus three mentors, met at Christ Church and prepared the dinner for the guests at Talbot Interfaith Shelter (TIS) in Easton. Christ Church staffed the shelter the week of January 22-29, and our youth group members were glad to participate in our parish's outreach effort. Special thanks to Ann Roe for her culinary planning and oversight!

Friday afternoon, February 10, ten members of the youth group, plus William Thomas, Alison Sanford, Ann Roe and three Nestlehtuts traveled to Clay Bakers in Easton to paint and decorate the bowls that were used at the annual Empty Bowls dinner in Easton. Empty Bowls is a worldwide grass-roots effort to combat poverty. The dinner was held on Feb. 26 at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Our youth group members volunteered to help set up and work at the dinner as well.

The Rite-13 Youth Group at Christ Church is open to all young people in middle and high school (grades 6-12). We meet at least monthly for a mix of outreach, social, and spiritual activities. Friends are always welcome! For more information, email or phone the parish office.



Katya Widell and her intricate design



Zoe Thomas and Mimi Sanford executing their own decorative finishes.

## REACHING OUT

### *Coming Full Circle – A Visit to El Hogar in November 2011* -- Bill Corba

In early November 2011, I made my fifth trip to El Hogar in Honduras. This trip was most special, as I joined a small group of visitors and some members of the El Hogar Board to bear witness to three distinct rites of passage. We were fortunate to attend each of the three schools' graduation ceremonies. El Hogar is really three distinct educational/vocational boarding schools; El Hogar Home Of Love And Hope (grades 1 to 6 and where our work teams have spent the most time), the Agricultural School and Farm, and St. Mary's Technical Institute. Although the schools are funded by U.S. and Canadian donors under the auspices of the Episcopal Church in Honduras, they follow the Honduras school year, which runs from February to November. (The author also provided the photos.)

There were 14 graduates from the Farm, 20 from the Technical Institute and 15 from the sixth grade at El Hogar. Each event was similar, yet quite distinct. Each began with a Eucharistic service celebrated by Honduras Bishop Lloyd Allen. Then the graduation ceremony is followed by a festive lunch. Those leaving the Technical Institute and the Farm may move on to further education (completing their remaining 2 years of high school...perhaps with hopes of attending college). Many will seek employment and begin to build their lives as new members of a growing middle class in Honduras (this is the specific mission of the organization.) I was struck with the significance of the sixth grade graduation. These youngest children will either move on to the Farm or Technical Institute in a very important rite of passage into young adulthood.



What made this trip so personally exciting and fulfilling was seeing a young boy I have sponsored since first grade graduate from El Hogar. I met Alexis on my first trip to Honduras in 2006. Lexi (his nickname) was 9 and just came to the school 2 months before we met. He actually sought me out that first visit. I suppose we were both two lost souls (for very different reasons) in 2006. Honduras was new to me; El Hogar was new to Lexi.

Our relationship has grown quite close during these past 6 years, and he was quite excited that I was there for this most important event. Lexi was the graduating class spokesperson. During the ceremony, I sat with his mother, Ada. Looking back on it now, I suppose it was the first time in Lexi's life that he had a mom



Above are Lexi, his Mom, Ada, and the author

and dad (well....Padrino – Spanish for Godfather) there for him. At El Hogar, each graduate wrote a small bio about themselves, their likes and remembrances. Each also dedicated their graduation to God, a loved teacher or their family. Lexi dedicated his graduation to his Mom and me.

El Hogar has touched me in ways I am still working hard to understand. It changed my life forever and I look forward to many years of deepening bonds with both Lexi and the organization. Unfortunately, because of rising security issues in Honduras, Christ Church will not be leading its planned sixth mission to El Hogar this May. If you would like more information about either the ministry or how you may contribute to it, please contact Mark Nestlehutt, Alison Sanford, or me, Bill Corba. By the way.....Lexi will be attending the Farm for the next 3 years.

## CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

### Docents' Guild – Linda Makosky

Gather two or more Christ Church docents together and you will often hear comments about how much they enjoy greeting visitors to the church and meeting a wide range of people. Signatures in our Guest Register illustrate the interesting and varied group we greet every year.

The custom of counting and analyzing the guest book entries appears to have begun in 1993. The minutes of the 1993 spring meeting state "Liz Scofield reported that from May to October last year there were 3,400 visitors from 41 states and 22 countries." Carol McCanna bravely volunteered to do the count for 2011. Not only did she tally numbers for the U.S. and foreign countries, she even noted the number of visitors from each Maryland county!

Docent Chair Army Webster used Carol's results in her year-end report to the Vestry: *"We had a very busy year welcoming visitors from all over the world to our historic Christ Church. This included people from 45 U.S. states and the District of Columbia with Maryland (515), Pennsylvania (272) and Virginia (129) showing the largest number of visitors. Internationally, there were people from 24 different countries -- all in all, 1,717 visitors."*

The foreign countries represented included Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Columbia, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Peru, Poland, Scotland, Serbia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, and Vietnam. In their role as greeters, docents have a unique window on the world.

One never knows whom the two-hour shift will bring. Newcomers are encouraged to become docents and enjoy these rewarding experiences. Time requirements are light; only two hours once a month from May through October. A handbook of background material is provided. Lillian Watts, who prepares the duty schedules, is happy to introduce new volunteers to the routine. Anyone who is interested may call her at 410-745-9999.

The docents' annual spring meeting will be held on Saturday, March 24, at 10 AM in Etherton Hall. Everyone is welcome, as we meet new docents and discuss the season ahead.



The photo above was made at the Fall 2011 annual Docents' meeting by Linda Makosky.

### The Men's Breakfast Club -- Leo Foulds

The Men's Breakfast meeting will take place in Etherton Hall at 08:00 am on March 10, 2012. A guest speaker will be chosen and announced in the church service bulletin on March 4. Non-members wishing to attend are welcome and should call Leo Foulds, telephone 410-745-6153, prior to March 7.



## ECOLOGICAL NICHE

### A Hummingbird in Winter, Part I -- Margie Steffens

For those people who have discovered the world of birds around us, life is never dull. Even on the days that are grey and cold, there are always interesting birds in the yard. Seed-eating birds, such as American goldfinch, are busy on the cone flowers left in the garden; robins are enjoying the ripe, red berries of the winterberry bush; and small birds like chickadees and titmouse are spending time at the feeders, while cardinals and white-throated sparrows catch the offerings below. This was the scene I witnessed on October 23, when suddenly, a tiny hummingbird appeared, darting from flower to flower. I grabbed binoculars and scanned its iridescent green back and white breast, and noted the tiny spots of bright pink, among the vertical stripes on its throat. I noticed its short tail, which appeared different from other hummers.

**Right:** The young male Calliope hummingbird which visited Margie Steffens' garden is shown here tasting the nectar of a Mexican bush sage blossom. The photo was contributed by the author's neighbor and professional wildlife photographer, **Donna Tolbert-Anderson**.



Could it be a late ruby-throated, our summer nesting hummer, I asked myself? But no, I thought, the last ruby-throated hummers had left over a week ago, and this one was too small to be a ruby-throated--no bigger than a large moth. Hummingbirds from the western parts of the United States are known to wander in late fall and winter, seeking food for the long migration ahead to Mexico, but I was at a loss to solve this bird's true identity. It was much smaller than a ruby-throated, so I ruled that out right away, and the plants that it obviously preferred were western salvias, Mexican bush sage, and pineapple sage. I often plant these for late color in the garden and for the enjoyment of the late ruby-throated hummers that are present in the fall. The feeder was still present -- birders are told to keep their nectar feeders up in late fall for the very purpose of offering nectar to wandering hummers -- but this bird disdained the feeder, preferring the plants.

I was unwilling to try to identify the bird for fear of getting it wrong and making a fool of myself, so I contacted one of our top birders, who put the information about the visitor out on the web to Maryland birders. The very next day, a member of the Maryland Ornithological Society, who had knowledge of western hummers, appeared with photography equipment to photograph the bird. It turned out to be a Calliope hummingbird, and that was the beginning of an exciting two months with the little visitor.

The Calliope (which means "little star") is North America's smallest bird, only a little over three inches, and ranges from British Columbia south to California and Mexico. But despite its small size, it is known to migrate a remarkable 3,900 miles round-trip from Canada to the high mountain ranges of Mexico. It is a bird of the high elevations in the west, so it never seemed to mind the cold nights we had in December, having been conditioned to high altitudes with low temperatures. What on earth was it doing in my garden, so far from its normal range? I later learned that Calliopes are noted for their wandering habits, and there have been four sightings in Maryland over time of these tiny birds. Our Calliope was a first sighting for Talbot County. The birds range far and wide to fatten up for the long flight to Mexico. We speculated that the drought in the Midwest had caused several hummingbird species to wander off their usual ranges, because other hummingbird species had been seen in Maryland this winter.

Once the bird was identified and out on the web, excited birders began to come to see it. It fed off and on in my garden every day, so very few birders were denied a sighting, but for my husband, George, and me, it was an all-day vigil for many weeks. **(Look for the April *Tidings* for Part II of the story about this unexpected wintertime visitor.)**

~ March 2012 ~

| Sun   | Mon  | Tue   | Wed   | Thu   | Fri   | Sat  |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| <b>Morning Prayer<br/>Monday – Friday<br/>9 AM</b>  |  |   |   | <b>1</b><br>8:30 AM Stephen Ministry Leaders<br>9 AM Stephen Ministry Supervision<br>1:30 PM Holy Eucharist at Londonderry<br>8 PM AA Meeting | <b>2</b><br>OFFICE CLOSED   | <b>3</b>   |
| <b>4</b> <b>2 Lent</b><br><br><b>Children &amp; Youth Sunday</b><br><br>8 AM Holy Eucharist<br>9 AM Coffee Hour<br>9:15 AM Adult Forum & Church School<br>10:15 AM Parish Family Eucharist<br>11:30 AM Cider in the Hall<br>5 PM Evensong | <b>5</b><br>8:30 AM St. Michaels Art League Workshop<br>7 PM Popcorn Theology  | <b>6</b><br>6 PM Bell Choir Practice<br>6 PM Covenant Churches Lenten Program @ Christ Church, St. Michaels   | <b>7</b><br>9:30 AM Staff Meeting<br>6:30 PM Youth Choir Practice<br>7 PM Chancel Choir Practice  | <b>8</b><br>9:30 AM Pastoral Care Team Meeting<br>8 PM AA Meeting   | <b>9</b><br>OFFICE CLOSED   | <b>10</b><br><br><u>TIDINGS DEADLINE</u><br><br>8 AM Men's Breakfast<br>8:30 AM Annual Vestry Retreat at Osprey Point<br>Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby |
| <b>11</b> <b>3 Lent</b><br><br><b>Daylight Saving Time Begins</b><br><br>8 AM Holy Eucharist<br>9 AM Coffee Hour<br>9:15 AM Adult Forum & Church School<br>10:15 AM Holy Eucharist w/Bell Choir<br>11:30 AM Cider in the Hall             | <b>12</b><br>7 PM Popcorn Theology   | <b>13</b><br>11 AM ECW Executive Meeting<br>12:00 PM ECW Meeting<br>6 PM Bell Choir Practice<br>6 PM Covenant Churches Lenten Program @ New St. Johns UMC<br>7:30 PM Vestry Meeting | <b>14</b><br>9:30 AM Staff Meeting<br>6:30 PM Youth Choir Practice<br>7 PM Chancel Choir Practice | <b>15</b><br>1:30 PM Holy Eucharist at Londonderry<br>8 PM AA Meeting   | <b>16</b><br>OFFICE CLOSED  | <b>17</b>  |
| <b>18</b> <b>4 Lent</b><br><br>8 AM Holy Eucharist<br>9 AM Coffee Hour<br>9:15 AM Adult Forum & Church School<br>10:15 AM Holy Eucharist<br>11:30 AM Cider in the Hall<br>12 PM Worship & Music Meeting                                   | <b>19</b><br>9 AM St. Michaels Art League Meeting<br>5 PM Christmas in St. Michaels Meeting<br>7 PM Popcorn Theology | <b>20</b><br>6 PM Bell Choir Practice<br>6 PM Covenant Churches Lenten Program @ St. Luke's UMC   | <b>21</b><br>9:30 AM Staff Meeting<br>6:30 PM Youth Choir Practice<br>7 PM Chancel Choir Practice | <b>22</b><br>9:30 AM Pastoral Care Team Meeting<br>8 PM AA Meeting  | <b>23</b><br>OFFICE CLOSED<br><br>5 PM & 6:30 PM Fabulous Fish Fry Fiesta | <b>24</b><br>10 AM Docents Meeting   |
| <b>25</b> <b>5 Lent</b><br><br>8 AM Holy Eucharist<br>9 AM Coffee Hour<br>9:15 AM Adult Forum & Church School<br>10:15 AM Holy Eucharist<br>11:30 AM Cider in the Hall<br>12 PM Prayer Chain Meeting                                      | <b>26</b><br>7 PM Popcorn Theology   | <b>27</b><br>6 PM Bell Choir Practice<br>6 PM Covenant Churches Lenten Program @ Union United   | <b>28</b><br>9:30 AM Staff Meeting<br>6:30 PM Youth Choir Practice<br>7 PM Chancel Choir Practice | <b>29</b><br>8 PM AA Meeting  | <b>30</b><br>OFFICE CLOSED  | <b>31</b>  |

## Ministry Areas of Christ Church



### Finances for the Month Ended Jan. 31, 2012

#### Revenues

|                              |            |           |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Actual – Current Month****   | \$ 118,891 |           |
| Budget – Current Month       | 111,648    |           |
| Over/(Under) – Current Month | 7,243      | Favorable |

#### Pledges

|                              |         |           |
|------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Actual – Current Month       | 109,154 |           |
| Budget – Current Month       | 105,078 |           |
| Over/(Under) – Current Month | 4,076   | Favorable |

#### Expenses

|                              |         |           |
|------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Actual – Current Month       | 50,090  |           |
| Budget – Current Month       | 57,431  |           |
| Over/(Under) – Current Month | (7,341) | Favorable |

#### Excess of Revenues over Expenses or (Expenses over Revenues)

|                              |        |           |
|------------------------------|--------|-----------|
| Actual – Current Month***    | 68,801 |           |
| Budget – Current Month***    | 54,217 |           |
| Over/(Under) – Current Month | 14,584 | Favorable |

\*\*\*\* Revenues include prepaid pledges in the amount of \$73,508 which were received in 2011 covering pledges for 2012.

#### CHRISTIAN FORMATION

|                    |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Adult Forum        | Ray Wasdyke, Carl Widell |
| Adult Inquirers    | Mark Nestlehutt          |
| Church School:     |                          |
| Ages 3-Grade 4     | Lee Thomas               |
| Rite 13            | Ann Roe                  |
| Youth Confirmation | Mark Nestlehutt          |

#### OUTREACH & WIDER MISSION

|                           |                                 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Back to School Project    | Gillian Whyman, Judy Sandground |
| Children's Home Found.    | Nance DuPont, Martha Austin     |
| El Hogar Project          | Bill Corba                      |
| Environmental Issues      | Margie Steffens                 |
| Episcopal Relief & Dev.   | Pamela McCloud                  |
| Grants Committee          | John Hunnicutt                  |
| Habitat for Humanity      | John Hunnicutt                  |
| Honduran Dental Mission   | Jim Campi                       |
| St. Michaels Food Pantry  | Beth Eckel, Judy Tanczos        |
| Talbot Interfaith Shelter | Pamela McCloud                  |
| United Thank Offering     | Carol Carlson                   |

#### PARISH & COMMUNITY LIFE

|                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Coffee Hour               | Mike Clark               |
| Covenant Churches         | Mark Nestlehutt          |
| Disaster Preparedness     | Linda Norris             |
| Docents' Guild            | Irmy Webster             |
| Episcopal Church Women    | Lynn Freeburger          |
| Kitchen Committee         | Mary Riedlin, Nancy Sipe |
| Lay Weeders               | Kay Perkins              |
| Lea Library               | Robert & Marilyn Barrett |
| Lemonade/Cider in Hall    | Alison Sanford           |
| Men's Club                | Leo Foulds               |
| Parish Paparazzi          | Bud Keiser               |
| <i>Tidings</i> Newsletter | Peter Houck              |
| Welcoming Committee       | Alison Sanford           |

#### PASTORAL CARE

|                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Eucharistic Visitors | Jessie Weddle |
| Flower Delivery      | Martha Austin |
| Pastoral Care Team   | Martha Austin |
| Prayer Chain         | TBD           |
| Stephen Ministry     | Ann Roe       |

#### STEWARDSHIP

|                   |                               |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Finance Committee | Tom Orem                      |
| Property          | Elizabeth Foulds, John Masone |
| Stewardship       | George Dixon, Tom Orem        |
| Teller            | Larry McCanna                 |

#### WORSHIP & MUSIC

|                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Acolyte Guild             | Sparrow Rogers, Ann Roe |
| Altar Guild               | Helen Bower, Judy Hause |
| Choirs:                   |                         |
| Chancel & Youth           | William Thomas          |
| Handbell                  | Shelley Reel            |
| Euch. Ministers & Readers | Martha Austin           |
| Flower Guild              | Nancy Besso             |
| Greeters/Oblation Bearers | Sheila Vaughan          |
| Ushers                    | Robert Burger           |

## Staff

The Reverend Mark S. Nestlehutt, *Rector*  
Mr. William R. Thomas, *Director of Music*  
Ms. Carol A. Osborne, *Parish Administrator*  
Mr. George E. Short, *Sexton*  
Ms. Anne Whyman Esposito, *Nursery Director*

## Vestry

Judy Sandground, *Senior Warden*  
Carolyn Wasdyke, *Junior Warden*  
Larry McCanna, *Treasurer*  
Mary Ellen Olcese, *Registrar*

George Dixon 2013  
Pat Martin 2013  
John Masone 2013  
Fritz Riedlin 2013

Bev Kegan 2014  
Lesley Moyer 2014  
Linda Norris 2014  
Tony Vaughn 2014

Elizabeth Foulds 2015  
Tom Orem 2015  
Sparrow Rogers 2015  
Hanna Woicke 2015

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**CHRIST CHURCH  
ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH  
Newsletter Editor  
PO Box 5  
St. Michaels, MD 21663-0570**

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