

Tidings



St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

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JANUARY, 2003

From the Rector's Desk - The Rev. William D. Oldland

The Christmas rush is past. Trees are down; lights and ornaments packed away. Home and yard decorations are now stored for another year. Christmas seems to start earlier, after Halloween now, and end faster, the day after Christmas, than ever before. Sometimes I wonder if all of the good tidings and prayers of peace on earth wane as the decorations come down. I often hear people comment that they are glad Christmas is past for another year. I know they are simply commenting on the state of their bodies and minds. All of the hustle and bustle of preparing for Christmas Day just wears us out.

We might be tired and our minds may be weary. Therefore, I would like to offer a few suggestions for spiritual recuperation. These suggestions are based on the two seasons of Christmas and Epiphany.

My first suggestion involves the Christmas story, a blanket, and a cup of cocoa or coffee. On the last few nights of the Christmas season, find a nice warm spot, perhaps in front of the fire. Fix a cup of cocoa and then look up the Biblical story in Luke. Read just a portion of the birth of Christ each night. The entire story breaks easily into these sections: Luke 1: 5-25; 1: 26-38, 1:39-56, 1: 57-80, and 2: 1-20. Slowly and carefully read only one section each night. See what words or phrases catch your attention. Spend a few minutes thinking about those words and phrases and then the theme of the passage as a whole. Reading these five short sections might help invigorate our weary muscles and refresh our spirits after the secular hustle and bustle of the season.

The second suggestion involves the season of Epiphany. The word Epiphany means manifestation. The celebration began in the church as a celebration of Christ's baptism. Presently, it is more often related to the coming of the Magi. The living Christ is made manifest to the Gentiles and to us through the visit of the Magi to the Christ child. Combining these ways of viewing Epiphany gives us an opportunity. First, we can read the story of the Magi' visit to the Christ child found in the second chapter of Matthew. The wise men brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to Jesus Christ.

After reading their story we might reflect on our own lives. What gift might we bring to Jesus today? If Jesus asked us for a gift, what would he ask for? What would we be willing to give to the Christ?

Both of these suggestions for our own spiritual welfare can be accomplished in our homes. We don't have to go anywhere. We don't have to dress up. We can be comfortable. We can get in our own comfortable chair and surroundings. These suggestions do require reading the stories and being still and quiet with God for a few minutes. In those few minutes of peaceful rest with God, we just might find some rest for our weary bodies and minds. We also might find some new energy for our spirits. We might be able to celebrate in a new and different way the gift from God of His Son to each of us. We might see Christmas and Epiphany in a whole new light. Have a wonderful Christmas and Epiphany Season. Bill +

VESTRY

<u>Jr. Warden</u> - Tom Ham	349-7261	tjhamiii@vnet.net
<u>Finance</u> - Bob Lee Watt	342-2305	fwatt@bellsouth.net
<u>Pastoral Care</u> - Larry Johnson	349-7688	lkjohnson100@hotmail.com
<u>Christian Ed.</u> - Jim McCloskey	349-3354	jimmccloskey@adamselectric.com
<u>Outreach</u> - Donna Van Ness	349-9956	ddvdoodle@yahoo.com
<u>Long Range Planning</u> - Grace Moffitt	342-3905	gracemoffitt@mosescscone.com
<u>NEW VESTRY MEMBERS:</u>		
Caitlin Ferguson	342-3991	weswim2@earthlink.net
Anne Montaigne	349-9441	
Todd Walker	342-9632	

Open Vestry Meetings are every third Monday at 6:45 p.m.

Inside This Issue. ...

- ? ? Highlights of November Vestry Minutes
- ? ? Confirmation Class Begins
- ? ? College Graduations in December
- ? ? Advent Activities Pictures
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- ? ? Cookies for Kairos

Vestry Update:

Marking the beginning of the church's fiscal year, January, 2003 also means that St. Thomas' Vestry has three newly elected members: Caitlin Ferguson, Anne Montaigne, and Todd Walker. Along with welcoming them, we also need to thank three vestry members who have just ended their three year terms: Bill Horsley, Richard Piazza, and Bettie Benton Rhodes. These folks have each attended vestry retreats, mutual ministry review meetings, and over 30 regular vestry meetings!

Bill Horsley served as senior warden—not for one term, but two—competently leading the vestry for two full years. In addition, Bill worked with the Membership Committee to make sure homemade bread was delivered to visitors to our church. Richard Piazza served three years as the chair of Parish Life, totally organizing 15 Lenten meals, plus coordinating spaghetti dinners, shrimpfests, and many other eating extravaganzas for St. Thomas. Chair of Christian Education for one year, Bettie Benton Rhodes then spent two years as the Worship Committee liaison and Vestry Clerk—becoming adept at taking Vestry minutes and emailing them to the Vestry and church secretary.

St. Thomas owes a big thank you both to the new Vestry members who are willing to serve and to the former ones for their years of service.

Highlights-November Vestry Minutes

Senior Warden, Bill Horsley recommended the following for the Annual Meeting in November, 2003:

- ? ? Send the written report to parishioners one week prior to meeting
- ? ? Include demographics (number of communicants, transfers, etc., average attendance at worship services and Sunday School classes)
- ? ? Include printed reports from the ECW, Youth, Christian Education, and the annual Mutual Ministry Review
- ? ? Allow one minute comments from committee chairs
- ? ? Move the choir to pews
- ? ? Allow time for parishioners to speak (once per person)
- ? ? Have activities and food in the Parish House for young children

Motion Made & Passed:

To honor Willie Mae Adkins' request to use \$775 given in memory of her husband, S.T. toward the construction of the new sign.

Treasurer Bob Lee Watt said the Finance Committee was working on a budget proposal that would be ready for the December meeting; predicted a 10% decrease in pledges.

Bettie Benton Rhodes, Worship Liaison, reported that a new Acolyte Coordinator would need to be in place by January 1; memorial money was used to purchase a nativity set; and no silent processional in Advent.

Polly Yeago, DCE, reported that 20% of the children in the church attend Sunday School (national average is 10%); noted a lack of

heat in some rooms. Bob Lee Watt said the church has money in the Building Fund that may be used to replace windows and insulate where it's needed. Jr. Warden, Tom Ham will get estimates.

Donna Van Ness, Outreach Liaison, reported on work for the Thanksgiving Dinner and adopting families for Christmas.

Long Range Planning Chair, Grace Moffitt said work was continuing on the new sign, with Tom Ham overseeing the project.

Bill Oldland reported that Parish Life is underwriting the upcoming Fran McKendree Concert. The cost is \$800, with St. Luke's and the Church of the Epiphany in Eden assisting financially.

Bill Oldland announced that Bishop Curry will be at St. Thomas on Sunday, March 30, 2003 for the 11:00 service.

Vestry Retreat - January 17-18 @ The Summit

7:00 p.m. Friday - 3:00 p.m. Saturday

Thoughts on Stewardship

By Tom Balsley

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God. Matthew 5:9

Last week I experienced a wonderful moment. It came on the day that Donna Van Ness and I delivered St. Thomas' gifts to the Help, Inc. office.

Help, Inc.: Center Against Violence is an agency working to alleviate the hurt and suffering that goes along with spousal, family, and elder abuse. Some of the victims of this type of cruelty currently reside or have been residents in their shelter. Others go there for private or weekly group therapy sessions. Special programs are in place for children in such circumstances in hopes that somehow the cycle of violence they have known for too long can be stopped. It's not an easy job for a counselor in this setting. Much of their time is taken with people whose lives are mostly filled with

shame and sadness and fear. However, due to the devotion and commitment of this superb organization, lives have been drastically changed.

On this particular day when Donna and I took the brightly colored packages to their office, we felt such a sense of pride in what St. Thomas had done to add some



joy to the lives of two very needy families. Donna's Chevrolet Suburban was literally filled

with presents that were bought and beautifully wrapped by members of our parish. In addition, there were stockings that were lovingly filled by members of our youth group. The staff members just "ooed" and "aahed" with excitement as they told us how wonderful it will be to see the expressions of surprise on

the faces of mothers who have no expectations for any kind of Christmas celebration. Julie, a staff member, told us about a little boy whose only Christmas wish was a piece of carpet beside his bed so his feet would not be cold when he got up in the morning. That was all that he wanted!

In my comfortable setting, I sometimes forget just how "hard" life is for so many. I have never had to eat in a soup kitchen or live in a sub-standard dwelling or spend the night in a shelter or prison. I also cannot imagine having to "start over" like many of those who have been abused and mistreated.

I know God will be pleased with our efforts to lessen some of the pain of these mothers and their children. More than just a momentary bit of happiness – I think what we really gave to these families was the gift of hope. Hope that people do care and hope that maybe tomorrow will be better.

Melinda Rice Asks for Help With a Community Need

It is probably difficult for most of us to imagine a life in which reading and writing do not play a prominent role. On a daily basis, we use our literacy skills for a host of purposes: sending and receiving e-mails, reading legal briefs, ordering merchandise, grading student papers, writing sermons, making shopping lists, programming our VCR's. . .

We may not even recall the precise moment in childhood when we began to associate sounds with letters of the alphabet and when we began to use this knowledge to "sound out" words.

Yet, the reality is very different for

many adults in Rockingham County. Some lack basic, "functional" literacy skills. Others are limited in their job prospects because they did not complete high school; this is a serious problem at this particular time for many who have lost their jobs due to plant closings and economical downturn.

A number of literacy and GED preparation programs are offered through Rockingham Community College. However, there are many adults who need individual tutors. Some lack transportation, some need more flexibility in scheduling, and some require more assistance in preparing for the

GED than they receive in the context of a class.

The literacy coordinator at RCC has a long waiting list of people hoping for tutors. I am recruiting volunteers from our parish to help. The only requirements are enthusiasm, a high school diploma, and a little spare time. The next training session is scheduled on a weeknight toward the end of January.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact me:

349-9770

mrice@elon.edu

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The preschool class was very busy in December getting ready for the Christmas Program. The children learned two songs, "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" and "Away in a Manger." They also made several Christmas crafts.

Writing letters to Santa Claus was exciting, but not as much when Santa himself came to visit us! (Thanks to Father Bill!)

Adult Christian Education Class

By Bill Oldland

Currently, there are two opportunities for adult Bible studies and faith development at St. Thomas'. They are a Tuesday Bible study at noon and a Sunday morning class at 9:45. The Tuesday class is studying the Gospel of Mark. Each week, we are going to focus on approximately half of a chapter.

Notes for each class will be available so missing a class will not be a problem. Please come and join in the discussions. Feel free to bring your lunch.

The second opportunity for faith development occurs during Sunday School. Adults meet in the Parish House and will be reading C. S. Lewis' book *Mere Christianity* beginning in January.

Copies of the book have been ordered and should be in the office shortly. If you would like to purchase a copy, please contact the office (349-3511) and speak with Debbie Powell, our secretary. The cost is approximately \$10.00. This text will give us a wonderful opportunity to discuss the basics of our Christian faith.

A special Christian Education event will occur on January 12th. The Rev. Kermit Bailey will be our special guest. He will be sharing with us the ministry of Triad Disability Associates in Greensboro. This ministry reaches out to many people who need legal representation for their disabilities.

Confirmation Class January 12

By Bill Oldland

Designed to prepare a youth or an adult to be confirmed, received or reaffirmed in their faith within the Episcopal Church, the class covers a wide variety of topics including creeds, the prayer book, and Holy Scriptures.

In order to prepare for the Bishop's Visit, there will be a total of eight class meetings, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Please call the office if you are interested in attending. (349-3511) Special classes will be arranged with college students who will be unable to attend these meetings. It would be helpful to bring a Bible, a small notebook, a hi-liter, and a pen or pencil to each session.

I am aware some of us may not know what the terms "confirmation," "reception" and "reaffirmation" mean.

Confirmation is the time in a

person's life where he/she stands before God, the church and the Bishop and proclaims his/her belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. For many youth and young adults, they are accepting the vows taken for them by their parents and godparents at their baptism as infants.

Reception is the process by which a person of another Christian denomination is received as a full member of the Episcopal Church. The person has already proclaimed that Jesus is Lord and Savior in another Christian denomination.

Reaffirmation is the opportunity for someone who has committed his/her life to Christ and to publicly reaffirm beliefs and vows. Many parents and sponsors of confirmands take the opportunity to renew these vows with the confirmand they have sponsored.

**WINNERS
OF DECEMBER
SUNDAY
SCHOOL
ATTENDANCE
AWARDS**

Primary:
**McKinnly & Dillon
Gourley**

Intermediate:
Eryn Phipps

Middle School:
Daniel Oldland

Senior High:
William Oldland

St. Thomas Rocks and Rolls Through Advent!



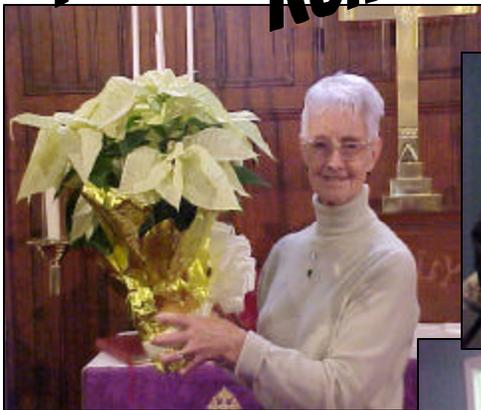
OUR BUDDY FRAN. . .

Parishioners of St. Thomas' love having Fran McKendree come to sing! He appeals to the youngest (Carson and Cole Bennett) children in the parish to the more mature and everyone in between—finding the child-like spirit in us all.

Held on December 8, the concert was triple sponsored by St. Thomas and from Eden, St. Luke's and The Church of the Epiphany.



Flowers Rehearsals and Fun!





Our Christmas Pageant



Mary & Joseph move toward the manger.



Finally, Christmas Eve!



Making a Difference

Editors' Comment:

St. Thomas is blessed with a number of individual parishioners who "make a difference" in the lives of our church community.

It seems appropriate that some form of appreciation, recognition, and celebration of these special people be publicly expressed on a regular basis.

Please share with the Communications Committee information about anyone who has gone "above and beyond" for the good of St. Thomas, including "worker bees," "silent servants," and "unsung heroes."

It is our goal to make this a regular column in *Tidings*.

Chuck Rhodes, Member of the Communications Committee
342-4897 brhodes3@triad.rr.com

By Chuck Rhodes



David Zoernig, Organist and Choir Master at St. Thomas, single-handedly organized, assembled, and distributed *Advent Meditations of St. Thomas, 2002*, a vision made into reality.

publication—but he did it!

Developed from a similar effort at All Saints' parish in Concord, and modeled after *Forward Day by Day*, the concept received the blessings of the Worship Committee when David proposed trying it.

His commitment and perseverance were patiently demonstrated from beginning to end. I was proud to be a member of St. Thomas on December 1st when I received my booklet. I intended to only read the December 1st meditation, but found myself reading until the end of the book (I did re-read each meditation on the appointed day thereafter.).

Advent Meditations of St. Thomas, 2002 is special for several

reasons. First, it served as a wonderful motivator to read the Daily Office readings for Advent.

Second, I received a gift from the contributors, either learning something about them I didn't know, or they shared something personal that connected with me spiritually.

And third, its creation directly involved so many wonderful people who shared their thoughts, vulnerabilities, and their hearts with the entire community.

Those who contributed a meditation are: Martha Balsley, Bill Horsley, Bob Foeller, The Rev. Verdery Kerr, Jeanne Kunn, Kermit Bailey, Mavis Simon, The Rev. Warwick Aiken, The Rev. Dr. Bill Morley, Jenny Johnson, Gayle Ferguson, David Scott, The Rev. John Wesley, Ellen Oldland, Joanne Piazza, Freda Watt, Alice Meynell, Tom Balsley, Laura Felts, Melinda Rice, David Zoernig, Canon Sydney Smart, Bettie Benton Rhodes, Mary Brent Trigg, and The Rev. Bill Oldland.

Colin Ferguson provided the art for the cover of the booklet and Ed Felts (Felts Printing) printed them.

It is my prayer that projects such as *Advent Meditations of St. Thomas, 2002* will be repeated in the future. Thank you, David Zoernig, for "Making a Difference" in the lives of the St. Thomas family.

Special recognition this month goes to David Zoernig, who serves St. Thomas, not only as an employee, Organist and Choir Master, but also as a highly committed and active member of our parish laity.

David orchestrated all aspects of the first *Advent Meditations of St. Thomas, 2002*. It was challenging to recruit so many people last summer to contribute an Advent meditation for the fall deadline of the

**Special Thanks to Those Who Beautifully Decorated Our Sanctuary for Christmas:
Dottie & Steve Worth,
Suzanne Howard, Parker Graham, and Tom Ham**

The Mystery of the Missing Turkey

By Jeanne Horsley and Tom Balsley



The Community Thanksgiving Dinner at St. Thomas was a huge success! There was an abundance of food, volunteers, good fellowship, and satisfied eaters. I (Jeanne Horsley) offered to do my part by cooking two turkey breasts and a small turkey. I did the cooking while offering up prayers that my sometimes on-again/off-again stove would cooperate. The oven worked through Wednesday and I breathed a sigh of relief. On Thursday the oven never got up to temperature and I realized I would have to go elsewhere to cook the turkey breast for the Horsley Thanksgiving meal that evening.

I decided to go to the church since most of my neighbors were cooking for their families. Bill had a key, so after fixing new herb butter for the turkey breast, we went to the church with a roaster full of turkey. I put the turkey in the preheated oven and planned to be back at 6:25pm when it would be done.

The kitchen smelled wonderful when we returned at 6:25 and I was looking forward to eating my second turkey dinner of the day. I opened the oven and it was empty! Someone had stolen my turkey! I had a sinking feeling that all we would be eating was vegetables. I decided to call Tom Balsley, co-chair of the St. Thomas dinner to see if he knew anything. As soon as I identified myself, I heard Martha, his wife, say, "I bet it's about that turkey breast!" (Jeanne's part of the story)

I (Tom Balsley) left the Parish House around 2:15 p.m. when we had cleaned up and washed all the dishes. I went straight to my parent's house because I knew my family had already started their Thanksgiving meal. After eating dinner with my family, I returned to the Parish House around 6:15 p.m. to collect Bill Simpson's pots and pans in order to get them to The Sanitary Café early the next morning. As I opened the door, the whole kitchen smelled like a turkey was cooking. I forgot about Bill Simpson's cookware and went over to the stove. The one on the left was warm. "Had we left a turkey in the oven?" I thought. A couple of years ago we left turkey in the oven after a Community Thanksgiving dinner, but it wasn't still cooking. I wondered, "How in the world had we left the stove on?" I then said to myself, "It's a miracle we didn't burn the place down." As I opened the door, I saw a turkey cooking. It looked fine but I wasn't sure—after all, this turkey could have been cooking for five or six hours. I took it out, turned the oven off, and called Melinda Rice, the co-chair of the dinner to describe the situation. Although earlier, she and Donna Van Ness left shortly after I did, she didn't know anything about it. I then called Bill Oldland and he had no clue as to the turkey. After that I called Tom Ham who wasn't home, so I left a message. After that I thought a minute and said to myself, "Man, this turkey looks pretty good. I'm going to take it home and see if it's okay to eat."

At home, I took the skin off the outside (and thought about giving it to my neighbor's collies), and started to cut into it, feeling like an expert turkey-carver since I had just carved around 20 to 25 turkeys the previous day. Right at that moment, the phone rang. Burton handed it to me and it was Jeanne Horsley. There was no "Hello," no "How are you doing?" no "Tom, there may be a mistake and I was wondering if . . ." but "TOM BALSLEY, HAVE YOU GOT MY TURKEY?" I was a bit flabbergasted to say the least. When I got my composure back, I asked, "How did you know?"

Jean said, "You were at the top of my list and if you didn't have it, I was going to call Melinda and then Donna until I found it." After that she said, "I'll be by there in a minute to pick it up."

Well, there would be no turkey sandwiches or turkey leftovers. Martha patted the skin over the bare turkey breast. I wrapped it up in foil and placed it in a cardboard box. I ran out to the sidewalk to wait for Jeanne and Bill. Jeanne had calmed down a bit by that time and from what I later heard, had a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner with her family.

ECW News

By Jeanne Horsley

The final Business Meeting of 2002 was held in the Parish House on December 8. Officers for 2003 were elected.

The ECW sent nine "Care Packages" to St. Thomas' college students to help them through their exams. We agreed to give our Christmas Outreach Funds to the St. Thomas' Outreach Fund for the three adopted families.

Dot Trent announced plans for the ECW to provide meals for the volunteer staff at the Free Clinic in the spring.

A committee was named to work along with the Junior Warden and to provide recommendations for purchasing a new refrigerator and icemaker for the kitchen.

Officers for 2003

**President - Jeanne Horsley
Vice Pres. - Mavis Simon
Secretary - Martha Balsley
Treasurer - Willie Mae Adkins
Spiritual Life/Devotional Life -
Dot Ferneyhough
Chris. Ed. - Marion Safriet
Altar Guild - Suzanne Howard**

January Meetings:

**9th 10:30 Morning Chapter
@ Willie Mae Adkins'**

**12th 12:00 Board Meeting @
Parish House**

19th 7:30 Evening Chapter

Flower Guidelines.



The Worship Committee voted to make a change in the way people sign up to offer flowers for the altar.

The purposes of the new policy are to give everyone equal opportunity and to make it more convenient for the church secretary to include flower designations in the church calendar and bulletins.

Beginning January 1, 2003, the Flower Calendar will be kept in the church office. Anyone who wishes to sign up for a specific Sunday may contact the church office: 349-3511 stthomas@vnet.net

**December Church
And Sunday School Attendance**

	Dec. 1	Dec. 8	Dec. 15	Dec. 22	Dec. 24	Dec. 25	Dec. 29
8:30	23	9	21	12	20/5:00	7/10:00	No Service
11:00	63	72	69	84	183/11:00		46
Nursery	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	B r e a k f a s t	D I D	D I D	D I D
Pre-2nd	Com- bined 6	3	0				
3rd-5th		3	1		N O T	N O T	N O T
Middle	0	3	2				
High	1	2	2		M E E T	M E E T	M E E T
Tiny Sts	2	3	1				
Adult	10	No Class	10				

Thank You's

Dear Friends at St. Thomas,

Thank you for the very nice Thanksgiving meal sent to me on that day. I sure did appreciate it and a special "thank you" to the church youth group. Also, thank you for the desserts too!

God bless each one,
Vera McCullen

Dear St. Thomas,

Three ladies were very happy to receive Thanksgiving dinners. A most delicious meal! Thanks to all the volunteers who helped within any capacity. You are appreciated. For you people to take time from your holiday is very touching.

God bless,
Mildred Southard
Ruby Lanier
Frances Todd

The Reidsville Soup Kitchen, Inc. would like to take this opportunity to express their sincere appreciation for your recent expression of goodwill of \$265.25. Support such as yours ensures the continuation of this much needed community project.

To all of you who have been praying for my daughter, Dee, a large "Thank You!" She did incredibly well with the surgery. The doctor told my son-in-law, John, that he was pleased with the results of the surgery.

He did less "filing" on the brain stem than had been anticipated. He felt that the spinal column flow was good and that she should have less symptoms than she has had in the past.

Again, thanks to all of you for your prayers and concerns. Dee should be home very soon because she is doing so well.

Joyce Earl



Epiphany
Service

The Magi
Arrive!

Monday,
January 6th
7:30 p.m.

**NC Diocesan Convention: January 23-25
Delegates: David Zoernig and Pam Allen
Also attending: Bill Oldland and Lape Smith**

Details concerning resolutions have not been received from the Diocese at this time. Before the group leaves, the congregation will be informed about resolutions coming before the convention. Parishioners' comments about the resolutions are welcome. Delegates will be voting on the resolutions and wish to know the will of the parish.

Diocesan Connection

Kairos Cookie Ministry

Many of the men and women in our prisons have been abandoned by their families and friends. Often these cookies are the only indication to them that they have not become simply a number in the Department of Corrections. As important as this is, the use of cookies during a Kairos weekend has a deeper significance.

When Kairos first began in Florida during the 1970's, a problem arose that seriously threatened the ministry. The Kairos candidates were excused from their regular duties for this time, and in addition, they were enjoying the food being prepared by the Kairos kitchen team while the rest of the population had to be content with regular prison fare. Some of the inmates resented this to the point of making life so miserable for the candidates that it was feared they would drop out of the weekend.

The Kairos leaders met to determine what could be done to eliminate this problem. Since it was felt that this ministry had been called into existence by God, the group prayed He would give them the answer they needed. After a long period of praying and listening, several members of the team were given the word, "cookies." The Kairos Cookie Ministry (for that is what it is- a ministry) began as a result of this meeting.

Each three-day weekend a dozen cookies are distributed to every resident and correctional officer of the institution, as well as to those residents participating in the Kairos weekend. Not only has this eliminated the original problem, it has resulted in the candidates being en-

couraged by the rest of the prison population to continue to participate... so they will continue to receive cookies.

These cookies tell the residents that someone who doesn't know them still cares enough to give a part of their life – the time it takes to bake the cookies – without wanting something in return. Such selflessness is often a unique experience for them. Most inmates in our prison system are takers, not givers. This brief experience of sharing something of value freely- often with those they do not like – has a powerful effect. Someone has said these cookies are "seeds of love" being sown in the hearts of those who know so little of the love God's children are commanded to show forth in the world.

Hopefully this helps you understand the importance of these cookies and the importance of each volunteer who bakes the cookies. Please pray for the people who will eat your cookies as you prepare them. Who knows what hearts will be touched and what lives changed by the power of prayer and your act of love in baking cookies?

3,000 Dozen Homemade Cookies Needed

NC KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY

Men's Central Prison Kairos #17 Feb 5-8, 2003

The purpose of Kairos is to build strong Christian Communities inside prison walls. It begins with a three-day short course in Christianity and continues with small share and prayer groups among residents of the institution. Cookies are distributed to every resident and staff member during the three-day weekend. The homemade cookies are a tangible and vital expression of Christ's love and witness from the outside Christian community – YOUR WITNESS – during this life-changing weekend!

IMPORTANT SPECIFICATIONS:

Bake ONLY STURDY Chocolate Chip, Peanut Butter, Oatmeal and Sugar cookies.

DO NOT add fruit, nuts or coating of any kind to the cookies, including sugar or sprinkles. Make only plain cookies.

Size: 2.0" – 2.5" in diameter. Thin crisp cookies break easily and cannot be used.

Allow cookies to COOL completely before bagging. Warm cookies will stick together and cannot be used.

Bag cookies in zip-lock freezer bags, A DOZEN PER BAG. One-quart bags are the best size to use. Do NOT use freezer bags with sliding plastic closures (slide zippers), but rather, those bags which press closed.

Pack bags in sturdy boxes such as shoe boxes or copy paper boxes so they will survive the trip to Central Prison in Raleigh.

**Cookies are needed by
Sunday, February 2, 2003,
and may be given to
David Zoernig or any
Kairos Team Member.**

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church
315 Lindsey Street
Post Office Box 72
Reidsville, NC 27323-0072

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit #19
Reidsville, NC

Return Service Requested



Who's Who at St. Thomas

CHURCH STAFF:

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- * [Organist & Choir Director](#) -
David Zoernig 273-4543
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- * [Director of Christian Ed.](#) -
Polly Yeago 643-7708
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- * [Church Secretary](#) -
Debbie Powell 349-3511
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- * [Sexton](#) -
John Black 349-3511

LAY WORKERS:

- * [Acolyte Coordinator](#) -
- * [Youth Leaders](#) -
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- Cheri Barrett 361-0793
Barrett8@mindspring.com
- * [Altar Guild](#) -
Suzanne Howard 349-7046
- * [Layreader & Chalice Bearer](#)
[Coordinator](#) -
Tom Ham 349-7261
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[Usher Coordinator](#) -

- * Steve Worth 349-7538
- * [Greeters Coordinator](#) -
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