

# Tidings

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

315 Lindsey Street  
Reidsville, NC 27320

336-349-3511

FAX: 349-3568

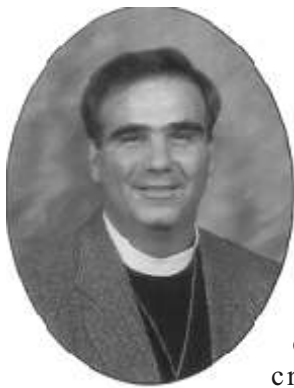
Email: [office@stthomasreidsville.org](mailto:office@stthomasreidsville.org)

[www.stthomasreidsville.org](http://www.stthomasreidsville.org)

September 2005

## From the Rector's Desk

The Rev. William D. Oldland



**H**ave you been following the debate about a new theory of creation called "Intelligent Design"? I think this new theory has a catchy name, don't you? It is also one more theory concerning the powers behind and the beginning of creation. It is a theory just like creationism and just like evolution. One slight difference is that it tries to incorporate evolutionary theory into its premise.

Evolutionary proponents predominantly follow Darwin's theory of evolution. The fittest and more adaptable survive while the less fit and the less adaptable do not. It does need to be said here that Darwin never proposed that humanity evolved from apes. That theory came about from one of the biggest scams ever pulled on the scientific community. However, as a result of this scam some people believe that humanity evolved from apes. Others believe we might have a common ancestor and I do stress the word might.

that it tries to incorporate evolutionary theory into its premise.

Perhaps, however, I move too fast. The three predominant theories (yes, there are more than three), about the beginning of creation are creationism, evolution and now, intelligent design. Creationism is the belief that all of creation occurred by God just as it is described in the Biblical text in Genesis chapters 1 and 2. Proponents of this concept of creation believe the world was created in exactly seven twenty-four-hour days. Many, but not all, believe the order of creation occurred just as it is written: light, the skies, the land and seas, plants, the heavens with the sun and moon, the creatures of the sea and sky, the

beasts of the land, and finally humanity. On the seventh day God rested.

Intelligent design seems to propose that something started all of creation and then directed its maturation. So, the force behind creation could be something like a puppet master directing things, as it were, as needed. This concept places everything totally in the hands of God since God is the director.

Personally, each theory holds part of the truth and none of them holds all of the truth. They are theories or concepts. Yet, each of them holds flaws. For example, the creationist concept has plants developing on the earth before the sun and moon are even made. My science

*continued on page 2...*

### The Vestry

Sr. Warden - Joanne Piazza	349-5827	<a href="mailto:rjpiazza@netzero.net">rjpiazza@netzero.net</a>
Jr. Warden - Tommy Thorn	616-0800	<a href="mailto:espywiz@nuvox.net">espywiz@nuvox.net</a>
Worship - Dot Reilly	634-1828	<a href="mailto:irishbr@aol.com">irishbr@aol.com</a>
Pastoral Care - Tommy Thorn	616-0800	<a href="mailto:espywiz@nuvox.net">espywiz@nuvox.net</a>
Christian Ed. - Scotty Reeder	342-0027	<a href="mailto:rhiannonr@bellsouth.net">rhiannonr@bellsouth.net</a>
Parish Live - Anne Montaigne	349-9441	<a href="mailto:amontaigne@yahoo.com">amontaigne@yahoo.com</a>
Outreach - Todd Walker	342-9632	<a href="mailto:todd.walker@smallemoughtocare.com">todd.walker@smallemoughtocare.com</a>
Outreach - Phillip Dalton	613-9695	<a href="mailto:phillipesi@triad.rr.com">phillipesi@triad.rr.com</a>
Communications - Melinda Rice	349-9770	<a href="mailto:melindarice@bellsouth.net">melindarice@bellsouth.net</a>
Finance - Paul Barrett	361-0793	<a href="mailto:barrett8@mindspring.com">barrett8@mindspring.com</a>

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

### Inside This Issue...

> Fall Christian Ed. Opportunities	2
> Let's Talk About Angels-Don Gwarek	3
> Musical Notes from Ed	3
> Fried Pie Crust Recipe	3
> Youth Mission Trip & First Meeting	4
> Choir Spaghetti Supper	5
> EDS: Plant Sale & Ways to Help	6
> Jr. Warden's Notes, Parish Register	7
> ECW, Men's Club, Ultraya	7

## From the Rector's Desk

*continued*

background tells me that is not quite possible. Plants need sunlight in order to grow, thrive and produce seed and fruit.

Darwin's theory of evolution does not contain a theory of how creation started. It deals with what happens after life begins and has been around for hundreds of thousands of years. Evolution is still occurring today. Just ask your dentist about changes in the numbers of wisdom teeth in people's mouths today. A significant number of people have reduced numbers of the teeth if any at all. Yet, I repeat, Darwin's theory does not propose how creation started. Furthermore, anyone studying physics is very familiar with Einstein's great mathematical formula  $E=mc^2$ . No one has been able to account for the energy or the mass that began creation.

Now, what might be the flaws in intelligent design. This theory does not account for free will. Humanity has free will to change its environment. We have moved from caves to buildings. We have created methods to purify water and ship water to previously uninhabitable areas. We can grow food where it was once dry. We also have the ability to pollute and change our environment negatively. Air and water pollution are rampant. Most of the lakes in North and South Carolina have warnings on how much fish to eat because of pollutants of mercury and other heavy metals. This theory does not allow for humanity's freedom to create or destroy.

Yet, for the true Anglican, each of these theories has value. Something started all of creation. For us, that something is God as the Holy Trinity. Furthermore, God continues to act in creation. God did not just get it started and leave it alone. However, God did and does allow humanity to have a part in creation. Humanity has the capacity to build or destroy what God has created. As the people of God we have done both. However, as people of God, we also believe that God's will does work all things out for good in the end. I guess we could say we really don't know how things got started and we don't know how they are going to end. We do have an idea that God had and has a hand in both.

So, I suppose we can say let the theories abound. Theories are theories. They are not absolute truths. The only absolute truth is the presence of God in our lives daily. Perhaps we could spend a little more time thinking about God's presence daily than worrying about how things all began.

Peace,

## Christian Education Opportunities

Adult Christian Education opportunities for this fall include the following:

**Bible Study on Revelation:** Every **Monday at 12 noon**. Bring your lunch, your Bible and your questions. Everyone is welcome.

**Confirmation Classes:** Bishop Curry will visit St. Thomas on October 30th. Our Confirmation Classes will begin on **Sunday, September 11th at 1:30 pm**. Anyone interested in confirmation, reception or renewal of their confirmation vows can participate in this class.

**Exploring Gifts and Talents:** This class is a seven-week discovery of one's own gifts and talents. The classes will be from 7:00 to 8:30 on Thursday nights beginning September 22nd and ending November 3rd. The class is exciting because it helps us identify what gifts we might have and then aids in identifying some areas of the church to use those gifts.

**Stephen's Ministry training Program:** This program will take place at St. Francis on Tuesday evenings beginning September 13th. Stephen's Ministry is an excellent program designed to teach individuals to be spiritual companions with others. Listening skills and developing one's own spiritual life are central teachings of this course.

If you are interested in these courses please call the office or fill in the form below and bring it to the church.

*I am interested in the following educational opportunities at St. Thomas.*

- Study of Revelation
- Confirmation Classes
- Gifts and Talents
- Stephen's Ministry

**9|11 Community Service**

**Sunday September 11, 6:00 p.m.  
First Baptist Church, Reidsville**

# Let's Talk About Angels

by Don Gwarek

People don't usually talk much about Angels unless they're discussing a TV show or a movie. So let's get something started. 'Fess up now, everyone who has ever seen an Angel raise your hands. Well I have! I'll tell you about that later but first let me tell you a little bit about Angels.

Angels are intermediate between God and man and are His messengers to mankind. They are mentioned in the Bible 196 times; 103 times in the Old Testament and 93 times in the New. According to the scriptures, God created Angels before creating man. But they were not created equal for there are nine orders of Angels. They are called Angels, Archangels, Virtues, Powers, Principalities, Dominations, Throne, Cherubim and Seraphim. Angels are usually depicted as being masculine with wings but the wings are something artists gave them because they could fly. We also know that there are a lot of them although only a few are named.

Although they're not listed as such, the Angel that most people have had some encounter with is their own personal "Guardian Angel." Saint Jerome said, "The dignity of the soul is so great that each has a guardian angel from its' birth. Indeed, stories abound on the internet of people who have been saved from disaster by some unseen hand. How about you? Have you ever had a really close call and said, whew, I was really lucky that time. I know I have ... many times. But I also feel that luck didn't have a thing to do with it. I feel someone was watching over me.

But I said that I saw an Angel. I think it may have been last Sunday. The Angel I saw certainly wasn't dressed all in white and didn't light up the room. And I can't even remember if it was a man or a woman. But my Angel did have a gentle manner and a warm smile, which I'm sure they shared with everyone they met. Maybe it was the hug or the handshake or the way they said God's Peace.

Doesn't sound like an Angel you say? You got me. It was really one of our good folks at St. Thomas. Actually it was you. You were my Angel.

Let me explain.

Remember that I said that an Angel was a messenger from God? Well, the Hebrew word for Angel can mean either a divine or a human messenger.

You are the messenger. The message you bring is God's love and Peace. Pass it on to everyone you meet.

## Musical notes from



### Rounding the Corner

Summer will soon be over. The stores are full of back-to-school shoppers, the heat is beginning to ease (soon I'll be able to practice the organ on Saturdays again!), and folks are doing their last "going away" before fall. We have used most of our 2005 Summer Hymn Blast hymns, and Bill and I are beginning fall and winter worship planning. On a personal note, my Virginia house is almost empty (THANK YOU, **Tom** and **Mary** and **Carol!**) and I will be setting up my piano teaching schedule soon, in addition to becoming a more "complete" NC resident. It is an exciting time.

THANK YOU again to all of you new friends for welcoming me to your church and community. I am being reminded of many of the things I love about being part of a church fellowship as the staff musician. I continue to enjoy the warm atmosphere at STEC and I love the hugs during the passing of the peace on Sunday mornings! The spaghetti dinner was most enjoyable too (THANK YOU, **Joanne** and "crew" ...yes, I went back for more!).

COMING IN SEPTEMBER: September 11, special musical community service, 6:00 P. M., First Baptist Church. Also I am planning to attend a training event in September.

Come join us on Wednesdays and Sundays and "make a joyful noise unto God"!

*Ed Spencer*

### **MIX TOGETHER:**

6 cups flour  
2 tsp. salt  
4 heaping tsp. baking power  
4 tsp. sugar

### **ADD:**

3/4 cup shortening and mix by hand until crumbly like corn meal

### **ADD:**

2 whole eggs  
1 small can evaporated milk  
and mix by hand until well mixed (if too "stiff", add a little water) I needed to add the milk can amount of water.  
batter will sort of pull of hand  
turn on lightly floured board and knead until sticky  
put in large zip bag and put in refrigerator overnight.  
Makes 35-40 pies (dough is cut out in circle 5 inches in diameter).

## Fried Pie Crust Recipe

## Youth News...

From July 31st to August 6th the youth group of St. Thomas along with others from St. Mary's by the Highway and St. Francis went to Charleston for the annual Mission Trip. During the week the youth worked on a home on Wadmalaw Island. The house needed to have the roof finished. St. Francis' youth group worked on this roof the week before. In addition to the roof, the youth also trimmed bushes, cut the grass, hauled away yard waste and bottles, and built a metal storage shed for the owner.

We lucked out on the weather during our trip. The previous week the temperatures were in the low 100's with a heat index of 110+ degrees. We had temperatures in the low 90's for most of the week. It was still hot. Most of us had an interesting time with fleas, ticks and chiggers. This week was our first experience with these critters in mass numbers. Even though we were bug bitten and sweaty we managed to complete all of the tasks at the home.

In addition to the roof and yard work, some of our group went to a soup kitchen in Charleston. They prepared Tuesday's lunch and fed over one hundred and twenty-five people. The report from the group that evening was that they had a good time and felt very rewarded in the experience.

Our trip was not all work. We also had our spiritual program and some play time. The spiritual program was on the topic of Sanctuary. We discussed the meaning of the word and how it fits into our lives. Our play activities included bowling, movie nights, chilling out, a sailing trip, tubing, swimming and a cookout. We look forward to next year's trip.

The first **youth group meeting** will be on **September 11th at 5:00 pm** at Bill's house. We will look at what we want to do this year and how we want to grow. Mark your calendars and be present for the night's activities.



**REMEMBER!... FIRST MEETING**  
**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11 - 5 P.M.**  
**@ BILL'S HOUSE**

# Mission Trip 2005

*Photos courtesy of Tom Ham*



# Sr. Choir Spaghetti Supper - Aug. 20

Many thanks to everyone who helped to prepare, serve and enjoy the Spaghetti Supper sponsored by the Senior Choir on Saturday evening August 20th. Thanks to everyone's help, the choir was able to raise **\$600** for our building fund!



*Photos courtesy of Tom Ham*

## Fall Plant Sale 2005



The preschool class is selling the same beautiful Mums we have sold in past years. The profits will go to pay for school supplies. The Mums are in eight (8) inch pots and colors will include, **Bronze (Gold), Yellow, White, Red, and Purple.** The price

is **\$4.00** per Mum or three (3) for **\$10.00**. Orders will be taken from **September 7th through September 21st**. Delivery will be on **Wednesday, September 28th**. Order forms can be picked up at the church secretary's office or at the Day School.

Last year church parishioners support was extremely appreciated. Thank you for past and future orders to help the children.



## School Starts Tues. 9/6

## Lots more ways to help

### Keep saving those box tops!

Can you help us meet our goal?

EDS is still collecting (even over the summer) the **General Mills Box Tops 4 Education labels** to raise money for our school. We receive 10 cents for every label! Our goal is to collect 1,000 by October 1st. We currently have just over 600. Just drop the box tops in the box in the parish house. We'll do the rest. This is an easy way to earn money for the school. Soon, there will be a listing of eligible products on the bulletin board outside the vestry room. Thanks to everyone who has been supporting this effort so far!

We have also applied for and hope to be accepted for participation in the Tyson Project A+ label collection program and the Campbell's Labels for Education. So, please start saving these labels, too. Our goal for the school year is 1,000 labels for each program. Eligible products will be posted on the bulletin board.

## A Reminder...

When making contributions to Episcopal Day School, please check with your employer to see if your donation qualifies for a matching gift. Thank you!

### Hey, Food Lion shoppers...

You can help Episcopal Day School raise money just by using your **Food Lion MVP card**. Just link your MVP card and every time you use it, a portion of your total purchase will be donated to our school. It's that easy!!

This program does not interfere with the MVP discounts and no specific products have to be purchased to participate.

How do you link?..... by visiting [www.foodlion.com](http://www.foodlion.com) and clicking on "Lion Shop & Share" OR call Edie Stadler at 342-6223 and she'll take care of it for you.

Where Two or Three are  
Gathered Together...



To keep your directory up-to-date, please make note of a few address changes:

**Mr. & Mrs. John Ball**  
29302 Lawrence Way  
Fair Oaks, TX 78015-4317

**Pam & Tab Haigler, Jr.**  
1308 Winterberry Drive  
Reidsville, NC 27320

**The Rev. Dr. William H. Morley**  
3454 Rugby Rd  
Durham, NC 27707-5449

**Melinda Rice**  
New email: melindarice@bellsouth.net

DATE	SERVICE	ATTENDANCE
July 24	8:30	9
	11:00	50
July 31	10:00	64 Mission Trip Commissioning
August 7	8:30	19
	11:00	53
August 14	8:30	15
	11:00	54

## ECW Meetings

The **ECW** will kick off it's Fall/Winter season with three meetings in September. First will be their **Board Meeting** on Tuesday September 6<sup>th</sup> in the Vestry room. The **General Meeting** will be on Sunday September 11<sup>th</sup> in the Parish House following the 11:00 service. The **Morning Chapter** will meet at Marian Safriet's home on Wednesday September 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.

Remember the **Fall Bazaar & Luncheon** - Fri Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>!

## Men's Club Meeting

The **Men's Club** meets on Thursday September 1st at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish House to make final preparations for Shrimpfest 2005. All men of the parish are cordially invited to attend!

No word at press time about the dinner menu for the meeting but with the culinary talents of our St. Thomas' men, there will no doubt be a feast for the body as well as the soul!

## Shrimpfest 2005 - September 24th

Mark your calendar for **Shrimpfest 2005**, our annual event sponsored by the Men's Club. See any member of the Men's Club for tickets.



## From the Junior Warden

We still have a few Summer projects around the church that I need your help with.

First, I have been requested to get together a work party to clear the area behind the storage building (on the west side of the property) for the new Cursillo trailer. If you can help, please contact me as soon as possible so that I can arrange to make it happen.

Second, the ECW funded the construction of a new addition to Bill's office cabinetry. I have been asked to get that painted. If you have the expertise (I do not, but can push a brush) to help with this or can help purchase the paint, please let me know.

*Tommy Thorn*

## Rockingham County Ultreya

The **Rockingham County monthly Ultreya** will be held at **St. Thomas parish house on September 9th at 7:00 pm**. Everyone is invited to come and share in fun, fellowship, music, and reunion. Bring a covered dish, and once again enjoy what our great cooks can whip up.

Contact Anne Rogers if you have questions, or suggestions. Look forward to seeing you there!

*- Anne Rogers*

# St. Thomas Episcopal Church

315 Lindsey Street  
Reidsville, NC 27320

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

## Return Service Requested

**September 2005**

### Inside This Issue...

> Fall Christian Ed. Opportunities	2
> Let's Talk About Angels-Don Gwarek	3
> Musical Notes from Ed	3
> Fried Pie Crust Recipe	3
> Youth Mission Trip & First Meeting	4
> Choir Spaghetti Supper	5
> EDS: Plant Sale & Ways to Help	6
> Jr. Warden's Notes, Parish Register	7
> ECW, Men's Club, Ultreya	7

## Who's Who

### CHURCH STAFF:

- Rector - The Rev. Bill Oldland  
349-3511  
rector@stthomasreidsville.org
- Organist & Choir Director  
Ed Spencer  
music@stthomasreidsville.org
- Director of Christian Ed. -  
Polly Yeago 643-7708  
jyeago@worldnet.att.net
- Office Manager & Rector's Secretary  
Jenny Wilkins  
349-3511  
office@stthomasreidsville.org
- Sexton -  
Cori Anderson 349-3541  
eds@stthomasreidsville.org
- Episcopal Day School Administrator  
Shay Johnson

### LAY WORKERS:

- Acolyte Coordinator -  
Jan Wheless 342-4011
- Youth Leaders -  
Gayle Ferguson 342-3991  
weswim2@bellsouth.net  
Cheri Barrett 361-0793  
Barrett8@mindspring.com
- Altar Guild  
Suzanne Howard 349-7046
- Layreader & Chalice Bearer  
Coordinator  
Tom Ham 349-7261
- Usher Coordinator -  
Steve Worth 349-7538
- Greeters Coordinator -  
Freda Watt 342-2305  
fwatt@bellsouth.net
- Worship Chair -  
Dot Reilly 634-1828
- Pastoral Care Chair -  
Tommy Thorn 616-0800
- Outreach Chair -  
Tom Balsley 349-3638
- Webmaster -  
John Bullock 349-9232  
john@mygraphicdetails.com

# WANTED!!!

INFORMATION - STORIES - PICTURES - IDEAS!  
Newsletter Deadline: the 20th of EVERY month  
news@stthomasreidsville.org OR Call the church office 349-3511