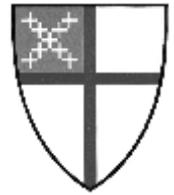




Tidings

St. Thomas Episcopal Church



315 Lindsey Street Reidsville, NC 27320 336-349-3511 www.stthomasreidsville.org

March 2006

The Vestry

Joanne Piazza - Sr. Warden
Parish Life Assistant
349-5827
rjpiazza@bellsouth.net

Tommy Thorn - Jr. Warden
Membership
616-0800
lthorn@netzero.net

Martha Balsley - Parish Life
339-3638
cardsfan@triad.rr.com

Paul Barrett - Finance
361-0793
barrett8@mindspring.com

Phillip Dalton - Outreach
613-9695
phillipesi@triad.rr.com

Don Gwarek - Pastoral Care
349-5074
dgwarek@bellsouth.net

Jeanne Horsley - Worship
342-2869
susyandbill@bellsouth.net

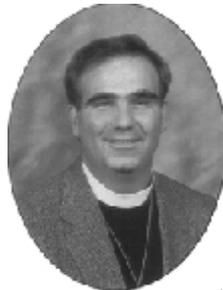
Scotty Reeder - Christian Education
342-0027
rhiannonr@bellsouth.net

Melinda Rice - Communications
349-9770
melindarice@bellsouth.net

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

Bill's Corner

The Rev. William D. Oldland



The incredible season of Lent is upon us. I know many of us do not perceive this season as incredible. We often tend to think of this season as very somber. We use Rite I and it is very penitential. Often times, the music is more subdued as well. Yet, there is a wisdom in this season that I believe is very important for us today.

The wisdom of the season is one of introspection and reflection. These forty days are an opportunity to reflect deeply on our personal and corporate life as followers of Jesus Christ in today's world. It is a time for us to examine where we are in our relationship with God. The gift this season offers is the incredible opportunity to slow down. The world we live in today is very hectic. It screams for instant everything. We have fast foods, self-service, DSL, instant messaging and internet shopping because we don't have time to go to the store. The world causes us to think faster is better. We are encouraged to move quickly or be left behind. In business we have to be one step ahead of the other person. In other words, the early bird is getting up at 2:00 am to get the worm.

In the world responding quickly or acting efficiently in business is probably very necessary. Developing our spirituality with the one who created us does not require quickness. In fact, it requires the opposite.

Developing our spirituality takes time and patience. The incredible gift we receive during Lent is the wonderful opportunity to slow down. Slowing down is not negative in our relationship with God; it is positive. According to the scriptures Jesus took time each day for quiet time with God. In Mark 2:35, Jesus got up in the early morning and went out alone to pray. The psalmist in Psalm 40 writes, "I waited patiently for the Lord, he inclined to me and heard my cry." In Acts, Paul has a conversion experience on the way to Damascus. After he receives his sight back he spends three years in study before going on his first missionary journey. Most importantly when Jesus is crucified he is not raised from the dead the very next day. The disciples had to wait for three days before they would witness the resurrection. They had time to reflect on all that had happened before the glory of God was revealed.

The season of Lent gives us that time of reflection and introspection. If we are really serious about using this time it will probably

continued on page 2...

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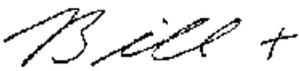
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Bill's Corner

continued

take us a week to begin to slow down and even begin to feel comfortable. I believe the greatest thing that could happen for us this Lent is for us to slow down and take some time with God. We don't have to give up anything except being rushed and overburdened. We actually choose to be healthy in our spiritual awareness with God. We have the opportunity. It is before us. I pray we will each use this opportunity to reflect, meditate, and pray with God. As we slow down and wait we keep our hearts and minds open to the possibility of a resurrection of spiritual life within us. Then the Easter experience becomes real within our hearts, our souls, and into our families and our community. I hope we all have an incredible Lent.

Peace,



Special Lenten Services

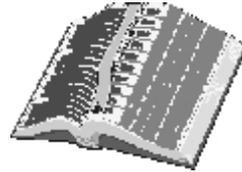
The season of Lent begins with three services on Ash Wednesday, March 1st. These services will be at 7:30 am, 12 noon and 7:30 pm. At each service we will follow the Ash Wednesday liturgy with the imposition of ashes and Holy Eucharist.

In addition, each Wednesday in Lent we will gather for The Order for the Evening. This service will begin with quiet time at 5:30 pm. The service will begin at 5:45 pm in the church. Immediately following the service we will go to the parish hall for dinner and a Lenten program. For this year's program we will share the results of the mutual ministry review from November. We will close the evening with the service of Compline at 7:25. Please try and attend these evening activities as a part of one's Lenten discipline.

Adult Christian Education Opportunities

Adult Christian Education currently offers two classes. **The first class is on Sunday at 10:00 am.** This class is doing a biblical survey of stewardship. For many people stewardship has various definitions. In our survey we are exploring the biblical concepts and how they apply to today.

The second class is a study of the book of Revelation. We are currently in Chapter 18 and we hope to finish this book soon. It is still not too late to join the class. Please consider joining us at 12 noon on Mondays.



A Poem for the Beginning of Lent

For all my sins, I now atone,
for I've committed them alone.
For what I've done, I have to learn
to face the facts, and not to squirm.
For what comes next, I'll have to pray
that what I mean, I'll also say.
So I kneel down, recall, repent;
forgiveness is only heaven sent.

My knees are sore, my memory, too,
as I share my senseless sins with You.
I lay before You, sin by sin,
those stupid pits I've fallen in.
But Your forgiveness lifts me up,
and Your most holy bread and cup,
both feed my soul and slack my thirst,
so now, I feel not last but first!

Thank You, gracious Jesus, Lord,
for keeping me afloat, aboard.
My deck's now clean, so's my resolve
to let my life emerge, evolve.
There's lots more joy in living right,
to see ourselves as others might.
As I begin each day You give,
I vow to follow You, and Live!

*Author: An anonymous priest from South Carolina,
printed in the Vicar's Verses, date unknown
Printer: Seaport Press, Georgetown, SC.*

So What Do You Know About Lent?

by Don Gwarek

This year, Wednesday, March 1st is the beginning of the most important event in our religious calendar. It is known as Ash Wednesday and it is the start of the Lenten season, a time when Christians the world over fast, give alms, do penance and most importantly, contemplate the wonder of Christ.

Would you like to know how the observance of Lent began?

Well to begin with the word Lent means springtime and in early times it was a three day period when people prepared themselves for baptism at the Easter vigil. By fasting or not eating for three days the candidates felt that they were purifying their bodies of sin and their senses became more acute to the significance of the baptism.

No one really knows when the season became extended to forty days but it was first mentioned in the Canons of Nicea in AD 325.

Actually there are forty-seven days from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday but the church does not count Sundays because they are considered feast days.

So why forty days? Well the number forty has a lot of biblical significance.

In the story of Noah and the Ark, it rained for forty days and forty nights. Moses and the Israelites walked the desert for forty days. And finally, after Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist, He fasted in the desert for forty days and resisted the devil's temptations.

And what about the ashes on Ash Wednesday? Yep, that's biblical as well. Ancient people "rent" or tore their clothing and threw ashes on themselves to signify mourning and later they were sprinkled on early Christians to signify penance.

In the early history of Lent fasting tended to be very strict allowing only one meal a day and it could not include meat or eggs. The practice of not eating meat is a mark of respect for the day that Jesus was sacrificed. Since flesh hung on the cross on Good Friday we remember His death by not eating meat.



I remember one of the things people would say is "I'm going to give up such and such for Lent." Giving up things you enjoy is one way to do penance. But rather than giving something up, why not catch up on your reading.

Could I recommend a good Book? Yeah! You know the one I mean. It's a good way to reflect on the life and teachings of Jesus and why He died. And most important think about how He taught us to love one another. His life and death changed the whole world for the better. That's something to celebrate.

I hope like me you won't be a penitent but will be a celebrator. Send a card to a friend you haven't seen in awhile. Hug your neighbor. Visit someone that you don't even know who is in a nursing home or hospital. Say hello and smile at a stranger.

Celebrate God's love by giving yours.



Vestry News from the Sr. Warden

Welcome to March – a little bit of madness – a lot of fellowship and fun! I would like to start out by mentioning that I did not include **OUTREACH** in my report last month. How could I do that? I apologized to **Phillip Dalton**, our Outreach Commission person and attributed it to a “senior moment” and he was very gracious about it. Before I get into last night’s Vestry meeting, I would like to talk about our wonderful outreach activities at St. Thomas.

We have two different approaches to outreach here at St. Thomas’. First, we have events that Phillip’s commission takes charge of, so I guess we can consider Phillip the “producer.” The first event of the year will be the Blessing of the Animals. Phillip will try to bring this event to the attention of the whole community and we will welcome any and all animals, along with their owners, to participate in this event. A small donation of pet food will be accepted and used to benefit animals that need it.

Fall will be the busiest time for the Outreach Commission. Events included will be the Apple Pie Sale during the Antique Alley Days Festival; the Community Thanksgiving Dinner; gifts to Needy Families at Christmas. Any funds that are raised by the Outreach Commission are returned to the community. If you would like to share in helping with any or these projects, please contact Phillip Dalton at 613-9695.

St. Thomas’ is outreach driven! We support the following with donations of time, food and money: the Soup Kitchen, the Free Clinic, the Outreach Center, the Battered Women’s Center, Scouting, Habitat for Humanity, care packages for shut-ins and college students at Christmas, scholarship funds for EDS students. Many of these are done by the ECW, who also take turns in providing pastoral care to our church family as needed. Many of you have

also individually donated funds to the Day School to help offset the cost of the new playground equipment. The Men’s Club does several fund-raisers each year and the money raised from these events benefit the community and the Day School.

These include the Pancake Breakfast and Supper, The Shrimp Fest, ringing the Salvation Army Bell at Christmas, food tent at the Spring Festival, and other miscellaneous events.

I hope I have covered everything we do in Outreach, but I may have missed something. As you can see, St. Thomas is a beacon of light in this community and we need to keep this light shining brightly.

Our Vestry meeting on Feb. 20th was very busy, as usual. We had a special guest, **Hazel Post**, who came to discuss the possibility of starting a new program of health and wellness. **Teresa Ruhland** is working with Hazel on this and she was not able to attend the meeting. The Vestry members gave Hazel our blessing to proceed with the fact-finding and report back to us in three months. This program will involve offering services to the community as well as our church members and will be partnered with Annie Penn, which will provide a nurse practitioner to participate.

Chuck Rhodes presented the Treasurer’s report and explained some errors he and **Steve Worth** had discovered. The corrected report was approved by the Vestry. Chuck will be stepping down from the Treasurer’s position and we cannot begin to tell him how much we have appreciated all he has done to improve the financial reporting by implementing a new computer program for St. Thomas.’

The Vestry also approved the new version of by-laws and policies that have been presented by the Day School. The new version adds a section that

allows the acceptance of one special-needs child per semester, and includes a new probationary guideline and form to be used. New board members, **Kate North**, **Angela Cook** and **Wendy McCollum** will begin attending meetings in April. **Joanne Piazza** will continue to serve on the board this year as Vestry representative and **Mavis Simon** will continue to serve on the board as ECW representative. The new administrator, **Jessica Rivers**, was unanimously approved by the Vestry. We all feel lucky to have Jessica in this position, with her many talents and abilities.

Some items of interest we discussed included getting catalogs to begin a search for new signage to be used inside and outside as directional tools, the Lenten Dinners and programs, the new directory that Father Bill and Jenny have been preparing, the repairs needed to the parking lot and the leaky area of the roof that has damaged the inside wood above the organ.

Commission meeting dates were discussed and we will make an effort not to duplicate meeting times, especially for those of you who serve on more than one committee. Please attend any of these meetings that you may be interested in as we continue to reach out to include all members and friends of our parish to participate fully in our activities and worship.

Respectfully submitted,

*Joanne Piazza,
Sr. Warden*



February is quickly coming to a close. We've had a lot of fun in school this month.

Of course, our color of the month was red and our shape of the month was the heart shape. Our weekly letters included "Oo", during which we learned about opposites and owls. Opposite day was fun seeing all the inside-out clothes, backward pants, girls with one side of their hair down and one side in a pony tail, black pants with white shirts and some even wore different shoes. During "Pp" week we learned about penguins and pigs. "Qq" week we learned about animals that are quick or quiet (or both). We also read some stories about ducks that like to "quack"!

We celebrated Valentine's Day by making Valentines for parents and for our Sr. Friends. Our parents planned a sweet Valentine party for the kids who enjoyed making their own bag for exchanging Valentine cards with their classmates.

We continue to attend story time at the public library each month. We also enjoyed going bowling at Reidsville Lanes. What a fun time!

Thank you to everyone that has signed up their Food Lion MVP card for the Lion Shop and Share program. We received our first check for \$15. That may not seem like a lot but every little bit helps and even that amount of money makes a difference. We'll continue to receive checks quarterly so keep using your MVP card each time you shop at Food Lion.

It's registration time for the 2006-2007 school year (can you believe it's already that time????) We have registration/information packets available in the church office, from the teachers and on the St. Thomas' website www.stthomasreidsville.org. Please call us at 349-3511 if you have any questions.

Until next month....

Ms. Edie & Ms. Jeanette

The Lenten programs and dinners will occur on the following nights during Lent:

March 8, 15, 22, 29, and April 5. This year we are doing something a little different. The first Wednesday night will be a covered dish dinner. Then the following four Wednesdays, you will be treated by families in our parish. All the nights have already been spoken for. - Don't miss out on **Joanne and Richard's** lasagna or **Dottie Worth's** soup, among other items. Also, this year we are providing nursery service for young families. Please plan to come!

Also, **Martha Balsley**, head of Parish Life, would like to extend a call for anyone who is interested in Parish Life activities to become part of the Parish Life committee. Just see Martha at church; call 349-3638; or email cardsfan@triad.rr.com. Become part of the group who helps to plan interesting and fun activities for our church family.

Martha Balsley
Parish Life

Wednesday Evening Lenten Programs

Schedule:

5:45 - Order of the Evening (church)

6:00 - Dinner (parish hall)

6:45 - Program

This year we are sharing the results of the Mutual Ministry Review in the following areas: Outreach, Worship, Education, Evangelism, Pastoral Care and Stewardship. Please join us for an informative look at our parish life together.

7:25 - Compline

Nursery Care Provided

Free Income Tax Help

The AARP, in cooperation with the IRS, will be providing free help in the preparation of individual federal and state income tax returns for the tax year 2005. This free service will be available at the two locations shown below. Although walk-ins are welcome at both sites you are encouraged to phone for an appointment. Please bring the following with you: all W-2s, form 1098s, 1099s, Social Security Cards for self and dependents, Social Security payments for year, etc., and tax returns for the year 2004.

EDEN LIBRARY: EVERY THURSDAY from 2:00pm to 7:00pm

beginning February 2 thru April 13, 2006.

EVERY FRIDAY: from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Beginning February 3 thru April 14, 2006

Each Saturday in February only 10:00am to 2:00pm.

For appointments call before 7:00pm 623-7651.

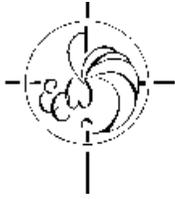
REIDSVILLE SENIOR CENTER 210 Washington St.

Every Wednesday, from 10:00am to 4:00pm beginning February 1 thru April 12, 2006.

Saturdays by appointment only.

For appointment call before 7:00pm 349-5827.

ECW... To All St. Thomas Women... Come Retreat With Us!!!



The Episcopal Church Women are planning a spiritual and fun retreat for **March 24-25**. We will be at the St. Francis Springs

Prayer Center in Stoneville, a beautiful, peaceful setting practically in our own backyard. Our retreat leader is **Mariana Newton**, a member of St. Francis in Greensboro. She comes highly recommended and is very much loved and respected in her church. Our topic is "Seasons of Life: How does your garden grow? Plants and gardens yield many metaphors for considering the nature of our own lives, life universals, and the gifts of God." Mariana is an avid gardener with many gifts to share. Please join us Friday night and Saturday or just for the day on Saturday.

Tentative Schedule

March 24 - Friday

Arrive at St. Francis Springs Prayer Center after 3PM

6PM - Dinner

After dinner we will not have a formal program- we'll relax, visit and???

March 25- Saturday

8:00 AM - Breakfast [for those staying overnight]

10:00 AM - Program begins with Mariana

NOON - Lunch

3:00 PM - Conclude our time together after communion

PRICE: \$60.00 per person based on double occupancy- includes room, dinner, breakfast, lunch

\$80.00 for a single - includes room, dinner, breakfast and lunch

\$20.00 - for Saturday only - includes lunch

All prices include use of the facility.

Scholarships are available, contact Anne Donecker.

For further information please contact **Dot Ferneyhough** [349-3630] or **Anne Donecker** [342-5093]. Space for Friday night is LIMITED. Please secure your place with payment to Anne as soon as possible with a check made to St. Thomas Episcopal Church.

~ ~ ~

The ECW Morning Chapter will meet on Wednesday March 8 at 10:30 a.m. at **Jeanne Horsley's** home. **Marian Safriet** will present this month's program about saints.

The ECW has approved this year's budget of \$5,390.

Many thanks to **Susan Dalton** for fixing the new year books which are available in the vestibule.



REGISTRATION

NAME..... Double.... Single.... Saturday only....

ROOMMATE.....

PHONE NUMBER.....

Any special requests??? [i.e. vegetarian meals, etc]

Please return form with payment to Anne Donecker. Thank you!!!

Announcing...

Signs of the times... a sign for the times... a sign to help spread the good word!

Marian Safriet and **Dot Trent**, ECW co-presidents and **Tommy Thorn** and **Richard Piazza**, Men's Club presidents, are pictured below with our new sign that the two organizations recently purchased.

In the past, our organizations

have rented signs to announce some of our special events but thanks to the efforts of the **ECW** and the **Men's Club**, we now have one of our own located prominently on our new property to help spread the good word about of our special activities to the Reidsville community..

A locked plexiglass cover was fitted to prevent unauthorized changes.



Planning Ahead...



HOLY WEEK

Wednesday 4/12 - 12 noon

An Order of Service for Noonday Soup & sandwich luncheon will follow the noonday service

Maundy Thursday 4/13 - 7:00 pm

Communion with Foot washing

Good Friday 4/14 - 12 noon

Good Friday Liturgy w/ Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday 4/15 -

dusk (TBA) Great Vigil of Easter

Easter Sunday 4/16 -

8:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite I
11:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

Men's Club

The Men's Club will hold their next regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Thursday March 9 at 5:30 p.m. at **Chris Rogers'** home. This will be their annual oyster roast, clam and chili supper.

In order to get this issue into your hands by March 1, please check next month's issue for a report on the results of the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast and Supper.

EYC: Youth Activities



During the month of February the youth group did a hot wing fundraiser, had a Superbowl party, explored the Christian symbolism in the second Star Wars movie, went bowling, and reviewed plans for this year's mission trip. Our plans for March include:

Mar 5 – Service Project to the community. Exact details are not available at this time. Gather at the church at 4:45 pm.

Mar 12 – Exploring Christian Symbolism in the movies – Part III. We will gather at the church at 4:45 to begin the movie.

Mar 19 – Worship and Dinner. We will go to the closing service at Cursillo #95 where Bishop Curry will preach and celebrate the Eucharist. After the service we will go out for dinner and discuss the service. Next fall we will attend the closing for the diocesan youth program Happening. The time to gather will be announced later.

Mar 24 – Lock-in at St. Thomas. We are going to have a lock-in for a fun night. The evening activities will include laser tag, putt-putt, movies, pizza, and very little sleep. Youth will gather at 6:00 pm at the church.

Upcoming Diocesan Events

The Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina
200 West Morgan St., Suite 300
Raleigh, NC 27601



Tel: (919) 834-7474
Toll Free: (800) 448-8775
Fax: (919) 834-7546
<http://www.episdionc.org/>

March 3-4, 2006

Wardens' retreat

Church of the Good Shepherd, Raleigh Friday afternoon,
March 3, to Saturday afternoon, March 4, 2006.

March 14, 2006

Forum on Becoming a Financially Savvy Woman of Faith in the 21st Century

for women of faith presented by women of faith with expertise in the financial, legal and spiritual realities that challenge us. Tuesday, March 14 9:30 am – 2:30 pm at Christ Church, Charlotte To register or request a brochure, contact Krysta Morgan or Bill Wrenn at Diocesan House, 1-800-448-8775, email: krysta.morgan@episdionc.org; bill.wrenn@episdionc.org

March 17-18, 2006

Magnetic Church Workshop

Friday, Mar. 17, 6:30 - 10:00 pm & Saturday, Mar. 18, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

North Raleigh Presbyterian Church, 11905 Strickland Road, Raleigh

Register with check (\$38 per person) by March 13 to Presbytery of New Hope, 2309 Sunset Ave., Rocky Mount, NC 27804 Contact Bill Wrenn, 800-448-8775, ext 233, bill.wrenn@episdionc.org

March 23-25, 2006

Godly Play Teacher Accreditation

Holy Trinity Church, 607 N. Greene St., Greensboro
Coordinator: Duana Cisney (336) 272-6149, x21, duana@holy-trinity.com. Trainers: J.D. McNutt, Candy Moser

April 8, 2006

Thinking Like a Leader

Saturday, April 8, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm Saint Alban's, Davidson (Contact Bill Wrenn, 800-448-8775, ext 233, bill.wrenn@episdionc.org.)

April 28-29, 2006

Spring Swindell Event - The Summit at Haw River Park "3rd Century Practices for 21st Century Christians" with Debra Farrington. For information call (336) 342-6163.

April 29, 2006

Mission & Ministry Fair & Acolyte Festival

Saturday, April 29, 2006 Canterbury School, Greensboro
This year's theme: "Together we can make a difference"
Workshops, exhibits and networking to enhance our mission strategy

Complete booklet can be downloaded at:
http://www.episdionc.org/pdf/m&m_2006.pdf

(Contact Bill Wrenn, 800-448-8775, ext 233, bill.wrenn@episdionc.org)

April 30-May 5, 2006

Stability and Sabbath: Sane Living in an Unstable World

A Benedictine Experience
Kanuga Conference Center
Sponsored by the Friends of Saint Benedict and the Diocese of Upper South Carolina

May 30 - June 2, 2006

Small Church Leadership Conference

Trinity Conference Center, Salter Path, NC Contact Bill Wrenn (800-448-8775, ext. 233, bill.wrenn@episdionc.org)



Now available on our St. Thomas' web site
The full text of Bishop Curry's Pastoral Address
delivered at the 190th Annual Convention

"Turning the World Upside Down"

Look for the link
near the top of our main page.

HELP!



Support Our Cell Phone & Ink Jet Cartridge Recycling Fundraiser



Proceeds to Benefit

The St. Thomas' Youth Group

CONTACT: Lauren Ruhland



The youth group will administer this ongoing recycling project. We can recycle **old cell phones, ink jet and laser jet cartridges** which keep our environment cleaner and bring some funds to our youth.

Boxes for recycling can be found in

the narthex of the church, the parish hall, and the choir room.

Bring in your old cartridges and phones and ask your friends and businesses for their help as well.

The Youth Group of St. Thomas

Musical notes from



The meditation of my heart

Epiphany has been a surprise to me this year. I have always thought of Epiphany as a happy season, full of messages like "Alleluia! God is with us!" This year, however, I have noticed more introspection, more soberness, more hard words than ever before. We have been confronted with our sins and promised forgiveness. We have been called to sacrificial ministry and promised God's presence. We have become more aware of feebleness and illness and have been assured of God's strength and healing. So what is Lent going to be like?

It looks to be a mixture of blessings and woes, of good news and bad, of soberness and celebration...yes, much like Epiphany has been, except during Lent there seems to be a bit more emphasis on the heart. Some of the greatest stories in the Bible are included in our Lenten lessons, as well as some of our classic penitential literature, and it all seems to focus on who we really are, way down deep inside.

Listen with me to the "still, small, voice" of God, and let us pray the Psalmist's prayer:

*"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
Be acceptable in Thy sight,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer."*

(Psalm 19:14, NASV)

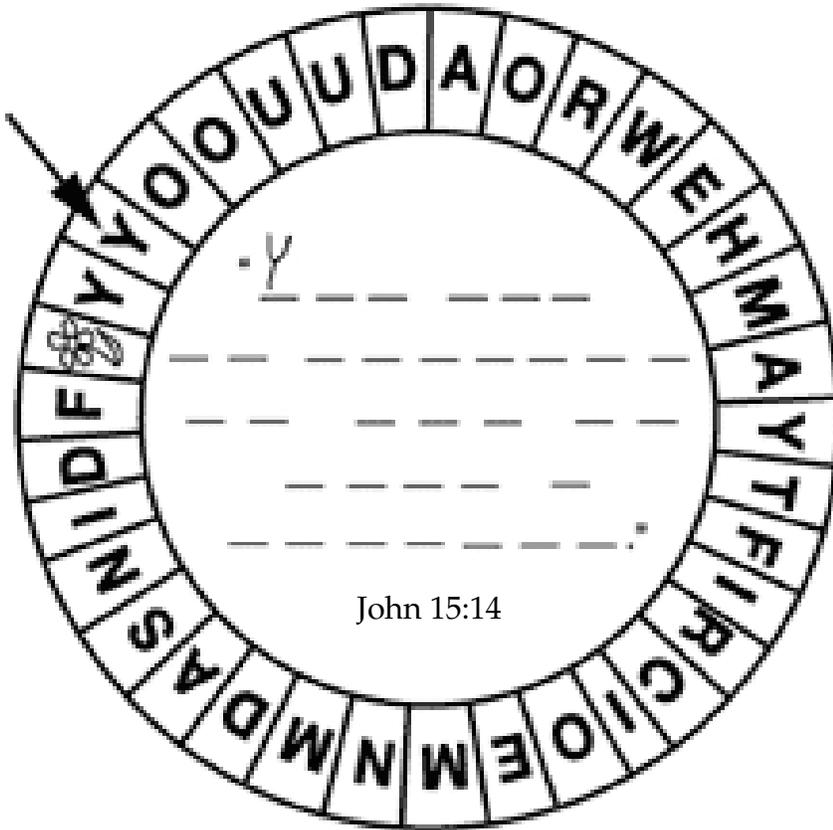
Ed Spencer



Who were Jesus' friends?

Jesus spent a lot of time with his friends.
Whom did Jesus consider his friends?

Beginning at the arrow and moving clockwise,
write every other letter on the spaces below.



Answer: You are my friends if you do what I command.

A New Pastor

A new pastor was visiting in the homes of his parishioners. At one house it seemed obvious that someone was at home, but no answer came to his repeated knocks at the door. Therefore, he took out a business card and wrote "Revelation 3:20" on the back of it and stuck it in the door.

When the offering was processed the following Sunday, he found that his card had been returned. Added to it was this cryptic message, "Genesis 3:10." Reaching for his Bible to check out the citation, he broke up in gales of laughter.

Revelation 3:20 begins "Behold, I stand at the door and knock." Genesis 3:10 reads, "I heard your voice in the garden and I was afraid for I was naked."

Thanks to Lape Smith

Bad Table Manners

When Samuel Wells was the vicar of a small Anglican church in a marginal neighborhood, a gang of surly adolescents burst into the church one Sunday as the Eucharist was being celebrated. While the congregation looked on in horror, the youths stood before the altar and their leader demanded, "Are you going to give us some of that?" Wells responded: "If you look behind you, you will see a small group of people who are here to do the most important thing in their lives. I don't think this is the most important thing in your life. I hope it may become so one day. But for now, I suggest you wait outside until we've finished, and then we'll have a chat about what things are really important and how we learn how to do them." Amazingly, the rowdy boys complied, and stayed for the conversation.

-The Blackwell Companion to Christian Ethics, edited by Wells and Stanley Hauerwas clipped from Jubilate Deo, Episcopal Diocese of S.C.

Thanks to Dot Ferneyhough

Where Two or Three are Gathered Together...



DATE	SERVICE	ATTENDANCE
January 29	8:30 a.m.	18
	11:00 a.m.	74
February 5	8:30 a.m.	9
	<i>Baptism of Bailey Gatton</i> 11:00 a.m.	79
February 12	8:30 a.m.	8
	<i>Boy Scout Sunday</i> 11:00 a.m.	70
February 19	8:30 a.m.	7
	<i>Bill away</i> 11:00 a.m.	46
<i>Services led by Tom Ham & Bob Lee Watt</i>		

New Church Directory

Jenny is currently in the final stages of preparing an updated church directory. Proof copies will be in the narthex the last Sunday in February and the first Sunday in March.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to proof your information before the new books are printed.

Endowment Fund

Contributions may be made to the Endowment Fund throughout the year by making memorial contributions, sharing stock, remembering the Endowment Fund in Estate Planning.

For more information, members of the Endowment Committee are: **Ann Donecker, Laura Felts, Starr McHugh, Bob Lee Watt, and Steve Worth.**

Pledge Report

	January 2006	Year To Date
Total Revenue	\$ 10,802.94	\$ 10,802.94
Total Operations Expenses	\$ 13,981.36	\$ 13,981.36
Difference	- \$ 3,178.42	- \$ 3,178.42

Thank You!

Dear Friends at St. Thomas,

Thank you for your gift to the diocese for hurricane relief. There is much work to be done in these devastated areas, and we trust God is in the midst of it.

On behalf of the Diocese of Mississippi,
God's Peace,

Judy Lacy

January 26, 2006



TV Desired

Martha Balsley is in need of a VCR-capable TV for her classroom at Reidsville Senior High. If you have an extra one in your attic, please get in touch with Martha.

Lost & Found

A pair of **reading glasses**, a pair of **sunglasses** and a **black button** have been found in the church. If you have lost these items, they can be reclaimed in the church office.



St. Thomas Episcopal Church

315 Lindsey Street
Reidsville, NC 27320

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March 2006



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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. -
- Office Manager & Rector's Secretary
Jenny Wilkins
349-3511
office@stthomasreidsville.org
- Sexton -
Carol Pruitt 349-3511
- Episcopal Day School Administrator
Shay Johnson (2005-2006)
Jessica Rivers (2006-2007)

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
tjhamiii@nuvox.net
- Usher Coordinator -
Steve Worth 349-7538
- Greeters Coordinator -
Freda Watt 342-2305
fwatt@bellsouth.net
- Worship Chair -
Tom Ham 349-7261
tjhamiii@nuvox.net
- Pastoral Care Chair -
Tommy Thorn 616-0800
- Outreach Chair -
Tom Balsley 349-3638
cardsfan@triad.rr.com
- 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