

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church

CANTERBURY TALES

Vol. 6, Issue 2
Susan Yarborough, Editor

March 2010

April

- 1 St. Clare's Guild Mtg. Noon
Seder Meal 5:30PM
Maundy Thursday service 7PM
- 2 Good Friday services noon,
7PM
- 3 Outreach Lenten Dinner
- 4 Easter Day services
6AM Vigil
10:30AM Holy Eucharist
Noon Easter Egg Hunt
Easter Brunch
- 6 Finance Comm. Mtg. 5:30PM
- 12 Vestry Mtg. 6:30PM
- 18 Canterbury Club 7PM
- 20 Grillers & Chillers
- 29 Antique Show Preview Party
6:30PM
- 30 Antique Show

May

- 1 Antique Show
- 2 Antique Show (no Christian
Education)
- 4 Finance Comm. Mtg. 5:30PM
- 6 St. Clare's Guild Noon mtg. at
Honey in the Rock
- 10 Vestry Mtg. 6:30PM
- 16 Intergenerational Christian
Education celebrating
St. Augustine of Canterbury
Feast Day
Canterbury Club 7PM
- 18 Grillers & Chillers

June

- 6 Summer Breakfast 9AM
Canterbury Club 7PM
- 8 Finance Comm. Mtg. 5:30PM
- 13 Summer Breakfast 9AM
- 14 Vestry Mtg. 6:30PM
- 20 Summer Breakfast 9AM
Canterbury Club 7PM
- 21-25 Vacation Bible School
9AM-Noon
- 27 Summer Breakfast 9AM

From Father Courtney...

Dear Ones:

I love this greeting which one of my many bishops used to greet the people of God in his cure. We are dear to the heart of God and sometimes to one another. And we are one in more ways than one. We are each, one. As American Christians we are often more "one" than "many". By this I mean we are alone and lonely.

Most of the institutions which used to hold us together such as local communities, service clubs, avocational pursuits of one kind or another have consistently waned in their presence and power in our lives. It is odd that as we get lonelier, we do less about it: more TV; more Twitter; more e-mail. The seduction of these marvelous inventions is that they simulate connection and sometimes intimacy. We confuse repetition with depth. Some people get as many as 1,000 tweets, emails, or worse, text messages a day. These folks assume they are connected by counting the number of contacts they have. These aren't contacts; they are accidental caroms of small bits of data operating in the Matrix.

Those of us who belong to the community of faith have a chance to live lives fuller and less lonely than people marooned on their Crackberry's. Here at St. Augustine's the Sunday Mass is one such event, but it is a formal and somewhat distant connection. The adult Christian education class is a better solution to accidental encounter. During Lent I will be doing some interesting readings from Rabbi Friedman about all this mess and am sure you will find it, well, connecting.

When we make real connections, we are "one" in a holier way. We become a synergistic community whose sum is greater than the number of one's we can count. The Bible calls this "a holy people."

Father Peter

PARISH BUSINESS



Rector Search Report

Over the next few weeks, teams from the Search Committee will be traveling to visit prospective candidates, hear them celebrate, talk with their families, meet with their parishioners, and answer questions about our parish. Please keep the Search Committee in your prayers as we travel and seek the information that may bring our new rector closer to our doors!

Joyce Long, Chair

February Vestry Summary

Highlights of the February vestry meeting:

- Pat Buraud reported progress on preparations for the Antique Show
- Disbursing Treasurer Don Reif reviewed the parish's current financial statements
- Jr. Warden Charlie Bragg noted options for reaching the bells for repair
- Sr. Warden Gary Jones and Bobby Wideman reported on the Diocese of Georgia Convention
- Discussed a request from a local organization for regular use of church facilities
- Joyce Long reported on the current state of the parish's search for a new rector
- The success of the Feb. 7th 50th Anniversary Luncheon was noted unanimously

The vestry minutes are available on request from Nancy Moak, Clerk of the Vestry.

★ Thank You! ★
★ THANK YOU! ★

For Helping with Our 50th Anniversary Luncheon

No thanks could possibly be enough for the many people who helped with our 50th Anniversary Luncheon Feb. 7. It would take the whole newsletter to tell the many ways and count the many hours and days that were cheerfully and graciously given to make the luncheon such a success. Everything was perfectly lovely and all who attended had a wonderful time.

Remember: We are not finished celebrating. A 50th anniversary comes only once, and we will have several more events this year.

John Nixon, Lillian Thomas
50th Anniversary Chairs



From Sister Ellen Francis

Thank you so much for the lovely reception on Jan 17, my last day as Interim at Saint Augustine's, and for the gift cards, which we will put to good use. I miss you very much and keep you constantly in my prayers, especially for the search process for a new rector. Please visit us at the Convent of Saint Helena – it would be good to call first so we know you are coming (706-798-5201, ext. 1). For our programs, events and directions, see www.osh.org. Don't forget our special Eucharist and feast on Ascension Day, Thursday, May 13. Be well and God bless you.



APRIL 30 - MAY 2, 2010

Preview Evening, April 29

Latest News

We have an exciting list of chairs working to make this show a smashing success. Now all we need is YOU! Please pick an area you'd like to help with, sign up, or contact the chair. Sign-up sheets in St. David's Hall show how many workers we need in each area and the times of greatest need.

Ad Sales: Don & Marilyn Reif

Please call Don or Marilyn for information and ad forms. **Ad deadline: April 1.**

Please tell prospective advertisers that ads for the show program will also be on the show's website for a full year.

Anyone who buys or sells an ad receives a ticket for the door prizes. The prizes are compliments of the Augusta Training Shop. If you've seen the Training Shop's work, you know you will really be getting something if you win.

Marketing: Bobby & Kathy Wideman

Bobby and Kathy need folks to distribute posters and leaflets.

Preview Tickets: Marian Hatcher

Marian needs salespeople. Pick up Preview tickets from Marian Sundays during coffee hour after the 10:30 service.

Daily Tickets: Jim & Estelle Dicks.

Jim and Estelle also need salespeople.

Canterbury Café: Kim Bragg

Kim will need a kitchen crew and waiters.

Desserts: Lillian Thomas

Lillian will need desserts and waiters.

Facility Turn Around: Chip Lowe.

Sunday, April 25, Chip will lead us in packing all the classrooms, etc., and marking furniture for move out. Look for the sign-up sheet.

Local Arrangements: Bob & Nancy Moak will handle vendors' lodging and other space set-up details.

Porters: Brenda Green. Contact Brenda if you have a good, strong back or a good, strong teenager.

Show Treasurers: Carol Lowe & Jane Taylor

Preview Party: Lorraine O'Quinn & Brenda McCarthy

Preview Party Needs: Liquor, food, flowers, and café tables. Members who contribute food, liquor, flowers, or labor earn tickets to the Preview Party!

We have two professional consultants working with us: **Marketing Consultant Lisa McCollum** and **Dealer Consultant Lynn Thompson**

Look for our church's name in the Masters' Edition of *Augusta Magazine*. We have contracts with the *Augusta Chronicle* and its affiliates, Channel 12, and Comcast for some great advertising.

Proceeds from this year's show will benefit **Augusta Training Shop** and **Golden Harvest Food Bank**. **Augusta Training Shop** provides training and a sheltered work environment for mentally and physically challenged adults. It does fine furniture refinishing and restoration, caning, and metal ware polishing. **Golden Harvest Food Bank**, a non-profit food distribution center, feeds the hungry through 530 partner agencies in 24 Georgia and South Carolina counties

We have two new vendors. Between them, our 15 vendors will offer original art and prints, antique clothing and linens, estate jewelry, imported handmade rugs, furniture, English and Asian porcelains, and fine silver, brassware and other metalwork, and East Asian exports. For info, see our lovely website: www.augustaantiqueshow.com.

Pat Burau, Chair

WORSHIP & SPIRITUALITY



Wednesday Evenings in Lent

Learn about opportunities for ministry in the wider community. "Expanding Your Service Horizons" is the theme of our Wednesday Lenten Series. 6:30 PM, potluck dinner; 7:30 PM, program.

- Mar. 3 Youth Development Center**
John Braddy
- Mar. 10 Wounded Warriors**
Bill Coleman
- Mar. 17 St. Luke Healing Ministry**
Carolyn Murdock, Sandy Turner
- Mar. 24 Mental Health Ministries**
Pam and Boyd Lien

Children's Lenten Series

Following our Wednesday Lenten meals, kids will expand their own service horizons with real projects. They will meet in the vestry room to make items for our speakers to use in their ministries:

- Mar. 3** Bookmarks for YDC
- Mar. 10** Placemats, Tray Cards for Wounded Warriors
- Mar. 17** Prayer Beads for St. Luke's Healing Ministry
- Mar. 24** Word Searches for Mental Health Ministries

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

At 11 AM in the vestry room following the 10 AM healing service.

For Adults: *Friedman's Fables*

Change. Sometimes we do it and sometimes we won't. Join us Mar. 7, 14, and 21 at 9:30 AM in the parish hall, as Fr. Courtney continues leading our discussion of parables from *Friedman's Fables*. The fables are just that; short, pithy, funny, scary stories about how real people do or don't do what they plan. You will never be the same. No book to buy; no homework. Just come and be a part of the group.

Spring Lay Ministers Conference

Dr. James Lemler, formerly Director of Mission for The Episcopal Church, will speak on "Transforming Congregations" at the Spring Lay Ministers Conference at Honey Creek, March 12-13. Dr. Lemler will discuss how congregations can renew their missions, live out of hope, share leadership, serve with compassion, give generously, and grow in the Spirit. Workshops will cover spirituality, Biblical interpretation, pastoral care, and lay Eucharistic ministry. Cost: \$120 single occupancy; \$110, double. For information, see: www.gaepiscopal.org. Lay Eucharistic ministers, please remember that the diocese expects you to attend a lay ministries conference at least once every three years.

Children's Christian Formation

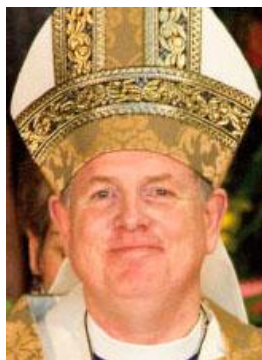
Each Sunday, 9:30 AM

EYC: Teen Fellowship

Middle and high school youth, Sunday evenings, 5-6:30 PM in the youth room.

Canterbury Club for Young Adults

First & third Sundays, 7 PM, youth room. Games, music, and talks about life and faith.



Rt. Rev. Scott A. Benhase
Tenth Bishop of Georgia
Ordained and Consecrated, Jan. 23, 2010



189th Convention Highlights

The 189th convention of the Diocese of Georgia met in Savannah February 4-6. St. Augustine's was represented by Senior Warden Gary Jones, Bobby Wideman, and Susan Yarborough, who were selected by the vestry as delegates.

In his address to the convention, our newly ordained Bishop Scott A. Benhase offered three guiding principles by which we, our parishes, and our diocese should live our lives: 1) proclaim the Gospel; 2) serve the lost and left out; and 3) be excellent stewards of the resources with which God has blessed us. He expressed his desire to see clear evidence that these guiding principles form the core identity of our parishes. To that end, he proposed a mutual covenant between himself and the priest and vestry of each parish committing us all to develop the goals and action plans that will enable us to live into these principles. (Read his address at www.gaepiscopal.org.)

Here's what our delegates had to say about their experience in Savannah:

Bobby Wideman: I am thankful to God and the members of St. Augustine's for allowing me to represent our parish at the convention. It was great to see how Bishop Benhase conducts the business of the Church. We are truly blessed to have such a capable, caring leader taking us forward into the future. The task he faces is a tough one, and the journey that we all will be taking with him will certainly have its ups and downs. However, I believe as many others, that it is a journey worth taking. Many of the Bishop's ideas are straightforward and will hopefully assist us in "growing" the Church.

He also welcomed two new parishes into our Diocese. It was as emotional as welcoming a new family member home after a long journey.

A major topic of the convention was the budget. It is good to see that the Diocese understands what a lot of our parishes and members are going through right now and is willing to "tighten its belt" a little. None of us like to see some of the worthy programs supported by the Diocese suffer at all, but these are indeed tough times. With God's grace and love for one another, I am confident that with the great leadership demonstrated at the Convention, our journey will lead us to a joyfulness and peace that will guide us well into the 21st century.

Susan Yarborough: This was my first diocesan convention, and I am honored and thankful to have been a delegate. The convention's table seating is arranged to mix members from different convocations. It was an eye-opening experience to listen to delegates discuss the challenges their parishes are facing. I was glad to see so many young adults there witnessing to how our youth ministries, summer camps, and college programs have helped form their faith. Like Gary and Bobby, I am very encouraged by Bishop Benhase. I was proud for St. Augustine's when he called for the diocese to open a School of Pastoral Ministry modeled on

the Deacon School of Ministry, in which our Deacons Lynn Anderson and John Warner have had a formative role. But it was especially moving to have Fr. Willoughby of St. Paul the Apostle, Savannah, remind us that we, all of us together, are the Church.

Senior Warden Gary Jones: Bishop Benhase's address and leadership of the convention showed he has a clear vision of where we should be headed, that he isn't afraid of hard work, and that he sees us as partners on the journey. The bishop believes in us and that we have the gifts to succeed. I am especially encouraged by his view that the diocese is here to help the parishes fulfill their missions to proclaim the Gospel faithfully and effectively. The Bishop's idea of a covenant between bishop, priests, and vestries is a good one. It can keep us focused on what's important, which is serving Jesus. I am very pleased that he is committed to fixing the way in which the diocese funds its programs from parish assessments. He stated openly that the current process is broken and the source of a lot of resentment, which is certainly true. What I saw at the convention was very promising for our future as a Church, a diocese, and a parish. Plus, it was great just to be with so many committed Episcopalians who were provided an environment to agree and, yes, even disagree on agenda items. I am thankful to God that I was a delegate to the 189th convention.

PARISH LIFE

Giving for Haiti

In Haiti, the rains have begun and the aftershocks continue. Diocese of Georgia Convention delegates gave \$3,500 in offerings for the relief of Haiti, which added to the \$50,000 the Diocese had already raised. Please remember our fellow Christians and Episcopalians, donate to Episcopal Relief

and Development's Haiti relief efforts at: <https://www.er-d.org/donate-select.php>



Friendship Center Collection

In Mark 5:1-20, Jesus drives a legion of demons out of a poor, possessed man living among the tombs. Your loving-kindness and generosity can help bring dignity to people with major mental illnesses. In March we continue to collect linens, dishes, kitchen utensils, and small appliances for Friendship Community Center at 1720 Central Avenue, Augusta. The center helps people with major mental illnesses transition from hospitals or supportive care facilities to living on their own again. Some clients live on as little as \$250 a month. They cannot afford even used household furnishings. Items that can help them cook a meal or make a space their own can be a source of joy. Please bring donations to the bins in St. David's Hall. For information, contact Deacon John Warner.



Ornaments Still Available

Have you got your 50th anniversary ornaments? We have plenty left and the anniversary is all year long. A delicate gold-finished image of the church is \$10. The stained glass sun catcher is \$12. Buy two. They make wonderful gifts and keepsakes. Each comes in a nice gift box. Contact the church office for details.



Summer Camp at Honey Creek

Well, no, your kids won't have to sleep in a tent. But they will learn about Jesus and nature, meet other Episcopal kids, and spend lots of time outdoors, away from iPod, cell phone, Gameboy, and TV, at Honey Creek's Summer Camps, in Waverly, GA. Activities include nature walks, fishing, kayaking, rope walks, art, drama, music, video/photo scrap-booking. Cost: \$395 per child/session. \$75 deposit applies to total fee. Our parish offers assistance with scholarships, and with transportation if several kids go to the same camp session. Contact Nancy Moak. For info, see: www.honeycreek.org

High School Camp (grades 9-12)	June 20-26
St. Peter Camp (grades 6-8)	June 27-July 3
St. Gregory Camp (grades 3-6, music focus, esp. singing)	July 11-17
St. Mary & Joseph Camp (grades 3-6)	July 11-17
St. Francis Camp (grades 7-9, nature focus)	July 18-25

Lenten Fare

Mothering Sunday

Sunday, March 14, 2010 will be the fourth Sunday in Lent and the midway point in our journey from Ash Wednesday to Easter. In England, Lent 4 has traditionally been known as "Mothering Sunday."

In the early Book of Common Prayer, the Epistle for Lent 4 was Galatians 4:21-31, which refers to the heavenly Jerusalem as "the mother of us all" and declares that

Christians are the children of God's promise to Abraham. Since the Church is the earthly representative of the heavenly Jerusalem, people in the Middle Ages were expected to return to their "mother" by going to services at the largest church or cathedral close to their homes. It is a day to celebrate ties of love to family and church. Young apprentices and servants were allowed to visit their mothers on this Sunday, thus the expression "going a-mothering," which was shortened to... you guessed it. The Lenten fast was relaxed for Mothering Sunday, which was also the only day in Lent when marriages could be performed.

A wedding, a visit to Mother, and the brief lifting of a fast naturally call for food, and Mothering Sunday became a day that families could expect to share a "simnel cake," made of fine flour, currants, raisins, and marzipan (almond paste). Simnel cake was often a gift from the children to the parents. Baked or boiled, it was often elaborately decorated to recall the disciples (all but Judas, of course). It might be taken to church to be blessed by the priest during the Mass. In turn, parents provided "frumenty," a dish of wheat boiled in milk, seasoned with cinnamon and sugar. In northern England and Scotland, "carlings," pancakes of steeped peas, fried in butter with pepper and salt, were the favored dish.

Family and church ties were stressed by giving flower posies to all the mothers and the practice of "clipping," for which the congregation formed a ring around the church, and holding hands, embraced the building.

Lent 4 was also known as "the Sunday of the Five Loaves" because the Gospel for the day was John 6:5-14, which recounts the miracle of the loaves and fishes. Some priests may wear rose-colored vestments on Lent 4, leading to the name "Rose Sunday."

Susan Yarborough

**St. Augustine of Canterbury
Episcopal Church
3321 Wheeler Road
Augusta, GA 30909
(706) 738-6676**

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The Bulletin Board

Thanks to ...Estelle Dicks, Marion Hatcher, and Marilyn Reif for their help with the February newsletter... *Our Christian sympathy is extended to...Charlotte Lane* on the death her husband, **Pete....Our prayers are with our military stationed abroad. . . especially Craig Linderman, Cory General** on the USS Mesa Verde; *and at home...Joe and Jennifer Venghaus*, at Ft. Bragg; **Matthew Hartley, Jon Garrick** at Ft. Gordon.

Deadline to submit information for publication in the April newsletter is March 19, 2010..

Email Addresses for St. Augustine's

Nancy Moak nmm@knology.net

Carolyn Gaynor chg@knology.net

General staec@knology.net

THE VESTRY

Senior Warden Gary Jones: **Junior Warden** Charlie Bragg,
Sean Brady, Robert Fields, Mike Gaynor, Joyce Long, Bill Macuch,
John Neal, Caitlin Parker, Ray Sigg, Lillian Thomas, Robert Wideman