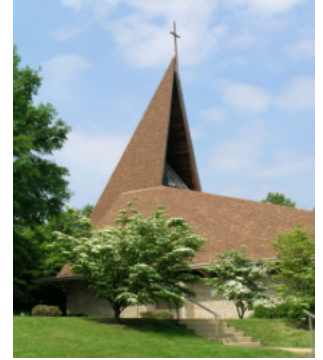


The Spire

Newsletter of the Church of the Resurrection
A Welcoming and Inclusive Faith Community

January/February 2012

2280 North Beauregard Street, Alexandria, VA 22311



Interim Rector:

The Reverend Carol Spigner

Parish Administrator:

Jane McCabe

Church Nursery

Coordinator:

Margie Bayrer

Director of Music:

Deena Jaworski

Organist & Assistant Choir

Director: Sanelma Sutton

Sexton: Melba Moran

Telephone: 703-998-0888

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www.welcometoresurrection.org

Office Hours:

M-F: 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM RECTOR

THE DIOCESE OF VIRGINIA: WHAT'S DOES IT DO FOR US?

At the Annual Meeting in December, the question came up about the pledge that Church of the Resurrection makes each year to the diocese. The amount that the diocese requests from each parish is based on its annual unrestricted income. A church with our resources is asked to give 10% - 12%. We give about 3%. The question was asked, "What do we get for our money?" In other words, what does the diocese do for us?

The Diocese of Virginia offers to each parish a wide variety of resources and staff expertise. Given the size of this diocese, it has one of the smallest diocesan staffs. Quoting some from the diocesan website (www.thediocese.net), here are just some of the resources we get from the diocese:

"The Diocese works to strengthen our congregations and their ministries by supporting the following ministries.

Congregational Development – The Committee on Congregational Development produces a Web site called Church Toolbox, which provides a wealth of helpful information to improve the health and strength of your congregation.

Development & Stewardship - The diocesan Office of Development & Stewardship is available as a resource to help your congregation develop a successful, faith-based stewardship plan. (Francis Caldwell, the Director of Development and Stewardship will come to any congregation that invites her to meet with the Vestry, the Stewardship Committee or the congregation.)

Christian Formation - The diocesan Office of Christian Formation offers programming and events designed to help you and your congregation grow into your Baptismal Covenant while supporting the ministries of your church. From clergy retreats to vestry education workshops, the staff work to produce events and opportunities that will strengthen your congregations. "

Transition Ministry - Lindsay Ryland, Transition Ministry Officer, has come to meet with the Vestry to outline the process of the search for a new rector. She is available to answer questions over the phone or to meet with the Profile or Search Committees at any time. She also assists clergy who are searching for a new position.

Shrine Mont is supported by the diocese. Many of us have enjoyed Shrine Mont, either for meetings, retreats, parish weekends, or summer camp. Roslyn Conference Center in Richmond is also supported by the diocese, as are several schools and retirement homes.

Mission and Outreach – The ministries of Mission and Outreach, headed by Buck Blanchard, exceed far beyond the borders of this diocese. He enables groups from the diocese to do missionary work, to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ, both within the United States and around the world. Our links with the Sudan and our assistance to help those affected by Hurricane Katrina and other natural disasters are just a few examples of the diocese doing ministry in the world on our behalf. The diocese provides a \$200 voucher to anyone under 21 who is confirmed to be used on a mission trip.

Cont. on pg. 2

Inside this Issue

Thoughts & Prayers	2
Court Decision	2
Advent Dinner	3
RCC	3
Calendar	4
Birthdays	5
Budget Summary	5
Parish News	5
Vestry News	5
HMP	5
Sunday Schedules	6
From the Wardens	6
BRAC Update	7
Diocese of Jerusalem	7
Servant Leadership	8



Please keep in your prayers:

Marno Batterson
Ryan & Veronica Byrnes
Irene Cole Kate Donnell
Orlan Falkenborg
Carlin Gray Paula Hancock
Sylvia & Ronald Kader
Terry Kester Kevin Kohler
Carolyn McDonald
Kay Mairo Karen Myers
Dave Perry Tommy Rillo
Angela Samela
Kathryn Spigner
Will Williams Nancy Willis
Warrick Wolf

Names on the Prayer List are shown for one month, unless you let us know they should be retained for longer.

Pray for those currently serving in the armed services around the world:

Cody Bergen Marcia Bossardt
Stephanie Butler
Mark Cullinane Jamie Deets
John Ellerbe Juanita Gibbons
Amanda Graham Mark Latham
Matt Lussenhop Dan Luster
Darius Malveaux Thomas Moore
Meera & Michael Noe
Eric Wiese

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of those who have died:

Virginia Sullivan
Linda Parsons
Marie Sullivan
Ellen Pence
Stephen McBeth

We give thank for the birth of:
Georgia Elizabeth Woodall

Cont. from page 1

The Office of the Bishops - The ministries of our bishops is widespread. Bishop Jones has been in charge of planting new missions, which brings others to know Christ. Bishop Gulick's ministry is pastoral care, particularly for clergy and their families, so they can lead their congregations in a healthy way. Bishop Johnston is a visionary, looking down the road to see where the diocese should be going and how he will help us get there. One of the bishops visits each congregation once a year to support and encourage each church and the ministries they are involved in. Their visitations help keep us connected as a diocesan family.

Communications – The Office of Communications keeps the diocese connected through “The Virginian Episcopalian”, a magazine that comes out four times a year. (This is replacing the monthly newspaper. If you do not currently receive this, you can read it on the diocesan website (www.thediocese.net) under “News”. If you want a print copy, contact Karen Smith (ksmith@thediocese.net) to request a subscription. The cost is \$5 per year.) The diocese also emails news once a week.

This is just some of what the diocese provides to the parishes. But none of this can be done without money to pay staff salaries and support missions and ministries. Each parish and mission is asked to pledge a certain percentage of their unrestricted income to the diocese.

In the Episcopal Church, each parish and mission is part of a larger whole. We support each other. We provide ministries to enrich all of us. We may not always agree with each other but we are part of this larger family called the Episcopal Church.

The Rev. Carol H. Spigner
Interim Rector

COURT RULES IN FAVOR OF THE DIOCESE OF VIRGINIA

On January 10, the Fairfax Circuit Court issued its ruling in favor of the Diocese of Virginia and the Episcopal Church in litigation seeking to recover Episcopal church property. “Our goal throughout this litigation has been to return faithful Episcopalians to their church homes and Episcopal properties to the mission of the Church,” said the Rt. Rev. Shannon S. Johnston, bishop of Virginia.

The court ruled that the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Virginia have “a contractual and proprietary interest” in each of the properties subject to the litigation. The court ordered that all property subject to its ruling be turned over to the Diocese.

“We hope that this ruling will lead to our congregations returning to worship in their church homes in the near future, while finding a way to support the CANA congregations as they plan their transition,” said Henry D.W. Burt, secretary of the Diocese and chief of staff.

Bishop Johnston added, “While we are grateful for the decision in our favor, we remain mindful of the toll this litigation has taken on all parties involved, and we continue to pray for all affected by the litigation.”

THANKS FOR A MOST SUCCESSFUL ADVENT DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

Many, many thanks go to Deena Jaworski and her numerous, enthusiastic helpers for organizing such a WONDERFUL Advent Dinner. The parish hall was transformed into a lovely "restaurant". With almost 100 parishioners, children and friends attending, every seat was taken and laughter and conversation filled the air. The food and fellowship were outstanding!

Many, many thanks also go to Betsy Faga, Lea Fowlie, Judy Isaacs and Jan Kester for organizing the Silent Auction. More importantly were all those who bid to make it a huge success. There was a wonderful selection of donated gifts and services on which to bid. 18 neighborhood businesses donated 24 different auction items and 23 parishioners contributed 30 items. It was a good time for the Resurrection folks to enjoy each other's company and raise some needed funds.

Your generosity raised \$3,815 in the Silent Auction; \$379 in the items for sale; and \$424 from the very fun blinking rings for a total of \$4,618. The dinner contributions totaled \$1,337. Once the remaining dinner costs are met from the Silent Auction proceeds; one-fourth of the remaining proceeds will be contributed to ALIVE, one-fourth to the Haiti Micah Project, and one-half to the Resurrection general fund.

Thanks to all!

NEWS FROM RESURRECTION CHILDREN'S CENTER

Happy New Year's to everyone at the Church of the Resurrection!

As we begin this new year, we wanted to share a note we received from a former student who will be graduating from high school this spring. The note reminds us of our mission to the community – and the good, good work we accomplish. Thank you for helping make our program possible.

"This year is a turning point for me as I look back and think about the past while I wait for the New Year ahead. I've enclosed some photos of me taken in the past at RCC where I started preschool in the Pretend Room. Yes, I was the kid who cried when I got splashed at the water table, cried when I had to walk in the grass, and cried the entire morning when my mom dropped me off. Things have certainly changed since back then...my mom tells me SHE will be the one crying when I graduate in June. I've learned to enjoy swimming and can be seen covered in grass as I mow lawns in the neighborhood..proceeds going to make payment on my car. I'm sure I was also the kid who designed some kind of super hero cape so I could fly from the Pretend Room to the Block Room. As you can see from the photos, I never really gave up that cape. I devoted four years to marching band, still wearing a cape! Marching band is over and graduation will be here before I know it. A lot has happened since I walked through the doors at RCC and the year is already filled with many 'firsts' and 'lasts' for me.

For the first time, I'm sending a small check to help RCC celebrate learning and changing the lives of kids like me. You really made a difference in my life. I started my school days at RCC and plan to head off to the University of Wisconsin next fall. Although I'm leaving the cape behind, I'll always remember where I got the encouragement to fly. I wish RCC continued success and send my thanks for the great job you do!"

Also, please remember that we have begun the application process for the 2012-13 school year. Please call the RCC office for information: 703.578.1334

January/February

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
15 2 Epiphany 8:00 am – Holy Eucharist 10:00 am – Holy Eucharist 11:20 am – Coffee & Forum 2:00 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave) 7:00 pm - Focus Inn	16 Office Closed Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida Rehearsal & Bible Study (Nave & PH)	17 7:00pm - Bible Study (Library)	18 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal (Nave) 8:30 pm – AA (Parish Hall)	19 8:00 am – Bible Study (Parish Hall) 6:00 pm - Scouts (Parish Hall)	20 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida Rehearsal(Nave)	21
22 3 Epiphany 8:00 am – Holy Eucharist 10:00 am – Holy Eucharist 11:20 am – Coffee & Forum 2:00 pm – Iglesia Nueva	23 7:30pm - Vestry Meeting(Library) 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida Rehearsal & Bible Study (Nave & PH)	24 7:00pm - Bible Study (Library)	25 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal (Nave) 8:30 pm – AA (Parish Hall)	26 8:00 am – Bible Study (Parish Hall) 6:00 pm - Scouts (Parish Hall) 7:30 pm - Healing Ministers (Library)	27 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida Rehearsal (Nave) Annual Council	28 8:00 am - ALIVE! Food Distribution (Parish Hall) Annual Council
29 4 Epiphany 8:00 am – Holy Eucharist 10:00 am – Holy Eucharist, with healing 11:20 am – Coffee and Forum 2:00 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave) 6:00 pm - AA Event	30 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida Rehearsal & Bible Study (Nave & PH)	31 7:00pm - Bible Study (Library)	1 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal (Nave) 8:30 pm – AA	2 8:00 am – Bible Study (Parish Hall) 6:00 pm - Scouts (Parish Hall)	3 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida Rehearsal (Nave)	4
5 5 Epiphany 8:00 am – Holy Eucharist 10:00 am – Holy Eucharist 11:20 am – Coffee & Forum 2:00 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	6 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida Rehearsal & Bible Study (Nave & PH)	7 7:00 pm - ALIVE! meeting (Parish Hall) 7:00pm - Bible Study (Library) 7:30 pm - Circle of Prayer	8 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal (Nave) 8:30 pm – AA (Parish Hall)	9 8:00 am – Bible Study (Parish Hall) 6:00 pm - Scouts (Parish Hall)	10 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida Rehearsal (Nave)	11
12 6 Epiphany 8:00 am – Holy Eucharist 10:00 am – Holy Eucharist 11:20 am – Coffee and Forum 2:00 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	13 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida Rehearsal & Bible Study (Nave & PH)	14 7:00pm - Bible Study (Library)	15 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal (Nave) 8:30 pm – AA (Parish Hall)	16 8:00 am – Bible Study (Parish Hall) 6:00 pm - Scouts (Parish Hall)	17 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida Rehearsal (Nave)	18 1:30 pm - Focus Inn Workshop (Parish Hall)
19 Last Epiphany 8:00 am – Holy Eucharist 10:00 am – Holy Eucharist 11:20 am – Coffee & Forum 2:00 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave) & Focus Inn Workshop (Parish Hall) 7:00 pm - Focus Inn (Parish Hall)	20 Office Closed Presidents' Day 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida Rehearsal & Bible Study (Nave & PH)	21 6:30 pm - Pancake Supper (Parish Hall) 7:00pm - Bible Study (Library)	22 ASH WEDNESDAY 12:00 pm - Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 pm - Ash Wednesday Service 8:30 pm – AA (Parish Hall)	23 8:00 am – Bible Study (Parish Hall) 6:00 pm - Scouts (Parish Hall) 7:30 pm - Healing Ministers (Library)	24 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida Rehearsal(Nave)	25 8:00 am - ALIVE! Food Distribution (Parish Hall)
26 1 Lent 8:00 am – Holy Eucharist 10:00 am – Holy Eucharist, with healing 11:20 am – Coffee & Forum 2:00 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	27 7:30pm - Vestry Meeting(Library) 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida Rehearsal & Bible Study (Nave & PH)	28 7:00pm - Bible Study (Library)	29 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal (Nave) 8:30 pm – AA (Parish Hall)	1 (March) 8:00 am – Bible Study (Parish Hall) 6:00 pm - Scouts (Parish Hall)	2 (March) 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida Rehearsal (Nave)	3 (March)

BIRTHDAYS

1/02 Sandra Jackson
 1/05 Bonnie Broderick
 1/08 David Ewing
 1/08 Jill Neuville
 1/08 Carl Lee Barnett
 1/13 Donna Adams
 1/14 Mary Lewis
 1/17 Victoria Maduakor
 1/22 Barbara Bartis
 1/23 Sam Adams
 1/25 Elsie Hardesty
 1/26 Katherine Hodgson
 1/27 Stella Byers
 1/29 Jay Madden
 1/30 Ruthmarie Finley
 2/02 Bonnie Kyle-Mistichelli
 2/09 Jasper Maduakor
 2/15 Anne White
 2/15 James Noé
 2/16 Richard Green
 2/17 Jonathan Maduakor
 2/18 Comfort Merife
 2/19 Frances Barnett
 2/19 Anna-Blessing Merife
 2/20 Stephen Merife
 2/25 Ray Isaacs
 2/25 Merry Ann Wright
 225 Susannah Duffy
 2/26 Jerold Cummins
 2/26 Betsy Raymond

2011 Vital Statistics

2011 Budget \$277,463

Income

Budget: (Jan.-Dec.) \$ 277,463

Actual: (Jan.-Dec.) 231,931

Over/UNDER Budget: (45,532)

Expenses

Expenses: (Jan.-Dec.) \$265,796

Collections (Jan.-Dec.) 231,931

Difference (expenditures

OVER collections): (33,865)

“Thank you” to each of you for your generosity and continual support in helping to meet our budget for 2011.

Church of the Resurrection

Vestry 2012

Betsy Faga, *Senior Warden*
 Robert Reeves, *Junior Warden*

Karl Boughan
 Tom Etter
 Barbara Eversman
 Linda Goff
 Milford John-Williams, Jr.
 Jan Kester
 Gladys Payne
 Marian Stevens
 Martha Swearingen
 Bea Taylor
 Kat Turner, *Register*
 Frances Williamson, *Treasurer*

Attendance

December 4	89
December 11	89
December 18	90
December 24	100
December 25	46
January 1	98
January 8	92

HMP THANK YOU

A huge thanks to all those who contributed school supplies, clothing, toiletries and medicines for the Haiti Micah Project's fall drive. Those parishioners sponsoring children were also able to send packages specifically for those children. All goods were shipped to Solidarité & Action Pour Les Enfants de Sion, the HMP's home for children in Mirebalais, Haiti. Resurrection contributed two full boxes of supplies for this special ministry along with funds to help pay for the shipping.

VESTRY NEWS

We welcome four new members to the Vestry: Jan Kester, Barbara Eversman, Tom Etter and Karl Boughan. At the Vestry Retreat on January 7, the Vestry elected Betsy Faga as Senior Warden and Robert Reeves as Junior Warden. Kat Turner was re-elected as Register and Francis Williamson was re-elected as Treasurer. We want to thank Kathy Graham, Terry Kester, Michelle McBride and Ken Gay for their three years of Vestry service. A special thanks goes to Ken who, as Senior Warden, had responsibilities beyond those that are normal as he started us on our path of transition to a new Rector.

PARISH NEWS

The Annual Council of the Diocese of Virginia will meet on Friday and Saturday, January 27-28. We will be represented by Carol Spigner and Beth Wiggers. On Sunday, January 29, the results of the meeting will be presented during the Adult Forum.

Bishop David Jones will be coming to Church of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday, April 8. If anyone over age 14 is interested in being Confirmed, Received into the Episcopal Church, or in Renewing their Baptismal Vows, please see Carol Spigner as soon as possible. Classes will meet in February and March for those who are interested.

E-Notes are sent electronically each Thursday to all on our email list. If you are not receiving the E-Notes and would like to, or if you do not have access to a computer and would like the E-Notes mailed to you please call the church office.

Upcoming Sunday Services

Jan. 22, 2012 3 Epiphany	Jan. 29, 2012 4 Epiphany	Feb. 5, 2012 5 Epiphany	Feb. 12, 2012 6 Epiphany	Feb. 19, 2012 Last Epiphany	Feb. 26, 2012 1 Lent
<p>Readings: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 62:6-14 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20</p> <p>Readers Beth Wiggers (8) Kathleen O'Malley Kat Turner Karl Boughan</p> <p>Chalice Bearers Kat Turner Larry Dye</p> <p>Ushers Bob Noé Edna Noé</p> <p>Altar Guild Peggy Green Marian Stevens</p> <p>Building Supervisor David Ewing</p> <p>Tellers Richard Green Carl Hull Betsy Raymond</p> <p>Greeter Betsy Faga</p>	<p>Readings: Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Psalm 111 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Mark 1:21-28</p> <p>Readers Beth Wiggers (8) Karl Boughan Bea Taylor Nora Gafton</p> <p>Chalice Bearers Kathy Graham Karl Boughan</p> <p>Healing Ministers Barbara Bishop Steve White Martha Swearingen</p> <p>Ushers Terry Kester Jan Kester</p> <p>Altar Guild Jacki Bracewell Judy Isaacs Lissa Reeves</p> <p>Building Supervisor Jay Madden</p> <p>Tellers Dennis Jones Susie Jones Nora Gafton</p> <p>Greeter Betsy Faga</p>	<p>Readings: Isaiah 40:21-31 Psalm 147:1-12,21c 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39</p> <p>Ushers Carl Hull Frances Williamson</p> <p>Altar Guild Marian Stevens Betsy Faga</p> <p>Building Supervisor Will & Cheryl McBeth</p> <p>Tellers Barbara Langford Bob Barnett Sandra Jackson</p>	<p>Readings: 2 Kings 5:1-14 Psalm 30 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 Mark 1:40-45</p> <p>Ushers Lissa Reeves Kat Turner</p> <p>Altar Guild Bea Taylor Lori Thurgood Jacki Bracewell</p> <p>Building Supervisor Bob Barnett</p> <p>Tellers Elizabeth White Kat Turner Gay Colyer</p>	<p>Readings: 2 Kings 2:1-12 Psalm 50:1-6 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-9</p> <p>Ushers Milford & Letitia John-Williams</p> <p>Altar Guild Lissa Reeves Judy Isaacs</p> <p>Building Supervisor David Ewing</p> <p>Tellers Bob Noé Jan Kester Betsy Raymond</p>	<p>Readings: Genesis 9:8-17 Psalm 25:1-9 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:9-15</p> <p>Healing Ministers Larry Dye Deena Jaworski Marian Stevens</p> <p>Ushers Bob Noé Edna Noé</p> <p>Altar Guild Peggy Green Jacki Bracewell</p> <p>Building Supervisor Jay Madden</p> <p>Tellers Richard Green Carl Hull</p>

From the Wardens

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

As we begin 2012, we consider it a privilege to serve as your Senior and Junior Wardens and recognize the responsibility that entails, particularly in this time of transition. The Vestry had an excellent one-day conference to talk about the coming year. We did some brainstorming and listened carefully as we talked together during the Profile Committee's listening session. We know we're a deeply spiritual, caring, and loving community, and we look forward to using all of our talents to keep us moving forward and trying some new ideas. We'll be bringing more specific thoughts to you as we continue our work as a Vestry.

Peace and Blessings,

Betsy Faga
Senior Warden

Robert Reeves
Junior Warden

BRAC Update

After more than a year of hard work, Virginia Congressmen Jim Moran and Gerry Connolly and Senators Jim Webb and Mark Warner have been successful in securing passage of legislation that places a cap at approximately 2,000 parking spaces that can be used at the BRAC building unless the Department of Defense (DOD) can demonstrate for 90 consecutive days that congestion hasn't reached failing levels of service. If traffic doesn't materialize, the DOD could partially lift the cap if they and the Virginia Department of Transportation agree on the number of additional spots that can be used without causing gridlock.

The legislation also requires the Army to implement recommendations of the Department of Defense Inspector General to complete a new traffic study, with accurate data, and revise and update their transportation management plan to preserve existing levels of service. The Inspector General released two separate reports denouncing the Mark Center's environmental assessment and transportation plan.

Both provisions were included in the FY '12 Omnibus Appropriations Bill that was signed by the President on December 23.

The Virginia Department of Transportation has dedicated \$80 million to transportation improvements and the Defense Department has dedicated \$20 million for short and long-term improvements.

Approximately 4,500 Defense Department employees have already moved into the building. When fully occupied next September, the building will host 6,400 employees.

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF JERUSALEM

At some time during the twelve days of Christmas I read a brief news item that priests from three of the ancient churches who worship at The Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem had been in a brawl over who was responsible for some aspect of the church. I didn't understand what the brawl was about, but it struck me as infinitely sad that here where Jesus was born there was this continuing clash among those who called themselves members of his body. It reflected all too well the contentious history of the holy land.

Well, I rejoice in all efforts at peace and reconciliation, including those of the Episcopal Diocese. Another of the concerned groups are the Franciscans. I saw many of them at sites I visited while at St. George's College. I particularly noticed them the first time I visited The Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. There were many monks and priests of other traditions, garbed in black and all looking gloomy. Then came along a gaggle of brown clad friars, laughing among themselves and practically dancing as they walked within the rotunda where the tomb is central. I smiled to myself and muttered, well *some* people believe Christ is Risen!

I had no knowledge that these Franciscans had Washington, D.C. as their home base until I recently went on a Goodwin House trip to The Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land at 1400 Quincy Street, NE, DC 20017. There I went on a tour of their unique chapel with its special areas commemorating sites in the holy land, and also sites of special interest in the life of St. Francis of Assisi. The friars I saw in the holy land had come from this monastery, and the friars I saw here in Washington had been there or would go there. I was able to speak briefly with the lovely elderly friar who was our guide. I told him I'd studied at St. George's College, and he was delighted, knowing it well. He asked if I'd be going back, and I said I knew I wouldn't be able to get there again at my age, but I was very glad to know that we were all working for peace there.

I hope other members of our parish will go to St. George's and relish it as Anne, Ruth, Peter, and I did--and also as The Rev. Bob Becker did before us. But if Jerusalem seems too far away, I recommend a visit to the Washington monastery. (Their web site is: www.myfranciscan.org)

Ongoingly, I support our Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem to the small extent I can, and much more through prayer. I invite you to join in this effort. "Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem" and of the entire Middle East at this crucial time. (Please see www.AFEDJ.org for news and links to other relevant sites.)

Barbara Bishop, Missioner, AFEDJ



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SERVANT LEADERSHIP

The Servant Leadership School of Greensboro, North Carolina, recently sent out its catalogue of classes that will be offered during the winter and spring. What caught my eye was their vision statement “to invite participants to a deeper relationship with God and with others in the community, as we explore both an inward journey of personal transformation and an outward journey of sacred service.” They explain the path of servant leadership this way:

1. Serving God with the whole of our being.
2. Serving the divine image in others, by recognizing that everybody we meet is the face of God.
3. Serving ourselves as sacred instruments of divine co-creation, by keeping ourselves whole through proper diet, rest, exercise, prayer, growth, healing.
4. Serving in our local community, by paying attention to what “stirs your soul” or “breaks your heart” and discerning what you realistically can do and are called to do in the local community.
5. Serving the planet as a global citizen by nurturing conscious awareness of the impact of our lifestyle, decisions, energy and actions have on the planet and its people.

Where do we stand on the path of servant leadership? Are we attentive to both the “inward journey of personal transformation and the outward journey of sacred service”? How do we balance them in our busy lives?