



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHRONICLES

BUILDING LEGACY

JILL CENTER

EPISCOPALIANS are the ultimate and extreme "legacy church." No matter how committed the local rector is to change, no matter how deft she or he is in managing it, there is a huge and nearly immovable weight of tradition. Some of it is so good that it might--rightly reinterpreted and freshened--be the way forward to real growth in size and health. But it takes a lot of energy. We almost inevitably tilt backward for every step and a half we take forward. . . Bishop Budde of Washington is absolutely right about concentrating on the meat and potatoes of local congregational life: worship, music, compelling preaching, education, pastoral care.

—*The Rev. Bill Tully,*
Rector of St. Bartholomew's Church,
as seen in The Washington Post.

What do we want St. Christopher's to be? As we have moved into this time of renewal at our church we have

established a picture of who we want to be and what we want others to see at St. Christopher's: a place with vibrant worship, quality music, compelling preaching, a variety of educational offerings, and many ways of caring for others and being cared for as well. That is a church any of us would be proud to belong to, eager to support and willing to work for.

The Episcopal Church has been likened to a battleship. An outmoded and slow vehicle that carried what was needed into battle. While strong and reliable, a battleship has difficulty changing its course. When we concentrate on *leaving* a legacy for "future generations" we end up building and sustaining museums of ancient faith rather than *building* a legacy alongside those right outside our doors that may not worship in the same way we are used to doing, but have a deep (perhaps even unnoticed) love of ritual, a more progressive theology, and a need for community. This is what we are

attempting to do in renewing our church, not just maintaining or redecorating, but Renewing for Mission.

I have no interest in belonging to a church that uncritically reacts to the current fashion and "felt needs" of the surrounding culture. Fashions are ever-changing and inevitably are over-powered by the next BIG thing. In contrast to fashion, tradition is an excellent anchor in the midst of a cultural storm, holding us fast to the things that are important.

I can think of no other tradition I feel more connected to than the Episcopal faith, rooted in prayer and The Word. However, tradition in and of itself is not enough. We need a purpose and a mission, too. As we enter a new year and a time of renewal for our sanctuary, we also take a moment and consider, how can we renew ourselves to serve the mission of St. Christopher's and the Episcopal Church?

Feasting on Gratitude 2012 Stewardship Campaign



St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
Estimated 2012 Operating Budget
\$431,000

		<u>Pledged to Date</u>
Minimum Pledged Income Req'd	\$413,000	\$167,064
Pledging Units Expected	110	62
Average Pledge	\$3,755	\$2,695

January 29th is the deadline for 2012 Stewardship Campaign.



RENEWING FOR *Mission*

Capital Campaign Goal
\$450,000.00

Pledges Received	71
Pledged Amount	\$382,262
Average Pledge	\$5384
Amount Still Needed	\$67,738

Thank you St. Christopher's for your faithful giving.

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
 1656 Blalock Road
 Houston, TX 77080
 www.stchrishouston.org

The Rt. Rev. C. Andrew Doyle
 Bishop of Texas
The Rev. Robert P. Goolsby
 Rector

Sunday Services
 8:00 AM Rite I Eucharist
 9:15 AM Christian Education
 10:15 AM Rite II Eucharist
 Children's Chapel

Parish Office

Phone: 713.465.6015
 Fax: 713.465.2086
 Email: information@stchrishouston.org
 Website: www.stchrishouston.org

Hours

Monday—Thursday 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
 Friday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Staff

Rector Father Bob Goolsby
 fatherbob@stchrishouston.org
 Parish Administrator Gladys Pace
 gladys@stchrishouston.org
 Sexton Ralph Talley
 ralph@stchrishouston.org
 Director of Music Ministries Henry Washington
 sing2livefree@yahoo.com
 Director of Children's Ministries Jill Center
 jill@stchrishouston.org

St. Christopher's Day School

Day School Director Marchelle Cipra
 cipra3@aol.com
 Phone: 713.465.6035
 Fax: 713.465.2086

Day School Hours

Full Care 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM
 Mother's Day Out/Preschool 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
 Pre Kindergarten 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
 After School Program 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Thrift Shop

Manager Claudia Langerud
 information@stchrishouston.org
 Phone: 713.467.7743
 Fax: 713.465.2086

Hours

Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

St. Christopher's Chronicles is published monthly by St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, Houston, Texas.

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions deadline is the 10th of each month. Submissions may be emailed to the editor at jill@stchrishouston.org or hand-delivered to the church office. All submissions are subject to space availability and editing. Submissions in ALL CAPS will not be accepted.

PHOTO POLICY

The Chronicles and St. Christopher's Church occasionally use photos of individuals or groups in publications, including our website. Anyone objecting to the use of their photos or those of minor children please notify the church office at 713.465.6015.

MAILING LIST

To be added or removed, please contact the Parish Administrator.

READ THE CHRONICLES ONLINE

The Chronicles is available online in PDF form at www.stchrishouston.org or can be emailed to you. Please email your request to jill@stchrishouston.org.

PRAYER REQUEST

If you or someone you know needs prayer, the Daughters of the King maintain a prayer list. Cards are available in the Sanctuary. The prayer will remain on this list for one month unless noted. For the Prayers of the People, please contact Parish Administrator. Unless otherwise noted, the prayer will only be added for one week.

PASTORAL CARE

If you or someone you know needs a home or hospital visit or Holy Communion, our Pastoral Care Team is available. Lay Eucharistic Visitors are available to offer communion. Please call the office to be added to the visitation list. In case of Pastoral Emergency, please call 281.636.7224.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar Flowers are available for dedication to special occasions. If you would like to order Altar Flowers, contact the Parish Administrator. Dedications are \$50.00.

BUILDING SPACE RESERVATION

To reserve any space on the parish property for a personal or organizational event, a building reservation or meeting request form must be filled out and approved at least five business days prior to the event. Reservation forms are available in the office or can be emailed to you.

FUNDRAISER OR OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

If you or your organization have a fundraiser or outreach campaign you wish to offer to the congregation, you must have approval from the church office. Please contact Gladys at 713.465.6015 or gladys@stchrishouston.org for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you wish to add an announcement to the weekly bulletin please submit it in writing by the Tuesday before you wish it published. Submitted announcements are subject to approval. Please bring it to the church office or email jill@stchrishouston.org.

NAME TAG/CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGE

Submit name tag request or contact information changes in writing to the parish office.

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



10-10-2011

GET IT OFF!!! GET IT OFF!!!

Happy New Year!

As we enter 2012 together we are going to be seeing many great things happening at St. Christopher's. The first thing most people will notice as they come to our church will be the Humphries Construction trailer in the front parking lot. We are hoping that after a two-week asbestos abatement process, work will begin to renovate St. Christopher's!

Inspired by a monk who spoke about the renovations taking place in the monastery where he resides, I am reminded constantly of the real reason behind the work we set out to do. On the surface, we will see a beautiful new interior in a beloved church and sanctuary that we prayerfully hope will attract new members and inspire our own sense of God's presence among us. Those are great things, and I look forward to them! But we must always be mindful of the deeper reasons.

- This is God's House. We have the privilege and honor to come and worship the One who gave his all for us: Jesus, God's only Son.
- Everything we do in and through St. Christopher's has so much less to do with us and so much more to do with God. Therefore, we honor God by caring for his holy house and make it our aim to glorify God.
- This is a house of worship, healing, and reconciliation. All people must feel welcome and be welcomed into this house for all God's people.
- Our church will be a brighter place. May it be a beacon of Christ's light to Spring Branch.
- Our church will be a newer place. May it be a place where all people can come and find renewal in Christ.

PEOPLE ARE LOOKING FOR CONNECTION AND RELATIONSHIP, NOT JUST MEMBERSHIP AT A LOCAL CHURCH

The newness of our church will be the result of our faithfulness to God and to the Renewing for Mission Campaign. May we be strengthened to our commitment to the mission of God's Church which is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. The Church pursues its mission as it prays and worships, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and love. This is our task as members of Christ's Body and heirs of His Kingdom. This endeavor to renovate St. Christopher's honors and glorifies God because it demonstrates our faithfulness and determination to make Christ known to all people, and it fulfills our own mission *to serve God through word and deed, inviting all people to find renewal in Christ.*

Amid all the New Year's allure to make us take on resolutions and

new behaviors, I pray that we all will resolve to continue making St. Christopher's a better, more welcoming, indeed a more inviting place of worship and renewal for us and for all the people around us who seek the same.

There are already so many new faces around St. Christopher's, and our work of renewal will help this trend, indeed strengthen it, to continue into the future. But even a major renovation project won't be enough.

St. Christopher's still needs YOU! As guests and visitors come, YOU need to greet them, introduce yourself to them, and eventually even invite them into an activity that you enjoy at St. Christopher's. Wouldn't it be great if our collective New Years' resolution was to reach out to all others, and actively invite them into our fellowship? Notice I didn't say 'membership'. People are looking for connection and relationship, not just membership at a local church. There are many new members who are already attending St. Christopher's and

still need to be *invited* into our fellowship.

Honor our guests and visitors. Introduce yourself to them and maybe to one or two others. Ask an usher or greeter or me what you can do to help with newcomer/guest ministry. Why do I bring this up? Because I believe the volume of visitors and guests will increase in the year to come. As construction gets underway and especially when our building is completed, we will have renewed energy and interest in our church and we all must be ready for it. God is doing an exciting thing in the life of our congregation and we must prepare ourselves to honor that.

Please keep our parish in your continuing thoughts and prayers as we venture forward. **Starting January 1, we will be worshipping in Latham Hall and will do so through Easter.** This will be exciting for many and inconvenient perhaps for others. So we must always remember why we are doing this work: because God is calling us to.

See you in church/parish hall.

In Christ's love,




RENEWING FOR *Mission*

PROFILES
OF DUTY AND HONOR
FOR GOD AND COUNTRY



MAXINE HOLLOWAY, Civilian

In his best selling book *The Greatest Generation*, Tom Brokaw devoted a chapter to “The Home Front”. In it he cites the effort put forth by the men and women who stayed behind to produce the equipment and material needed to prosecute the war in Europe and The Pacific, in particular referring to how these events radically changed the role women would play in industrial America.

One need look no further than St. Christopher’s own Maxine Holloway to illustrate the part that women played in this tremendous effort across the land. Her story is one of many thousands that can be told.

In 1943, as a young mother in her late teens, she went to work at Brown Shipbuilding* in Houston, working

there until 1945. In her words, “I was fairly well educated, I could read and write and they were desperately looking for help”. Her job was inventory control. This was vital to the smooth flow of critical material

**WOMEN PLAYED A
TREMENDOUS PART**

to the yard used in the construction of new naval vessels and the repair of combat inflicted damage to ships of the line. A priority system was put into effect during the war that covered everything from steel plate to leather work shoes. Maxine was responsible for seeing to it that the materials needed in the yard were meted out according to their proper priority and went to the right job.

Maxine remembers how the demand for LSM’s (amphibious assault craft) picked up in late 1943 and 1944. This was, as we now know, in anticipation of the invasion of Europe. Between May 1943 and August 1944, Brown turned out 61 Destroyer Escorts. They also built 254 LSMs. By the end of WWII, it had produced over 350 Navy warships. Maxine had her hands full at the Greens Bayou and at home where she was tasked with raising her infant son with help of her mother-in-law, who took care of the baby while she was at work.

His father was in the Army Signal Corps in North Africa and Europe and did not get to meet his son until he was two years old. Then there was always the wait for the mail to hear from a loved one, or that dreaded unexpected telegram or visit from the local pastor. Yes, this was part of it.

Further adding to the hardship of shortages on the home front was rationing. Just about all consumer products were rationed and if it wasn’t essential to the war effort it just wasn’t built. No new automobiles for private use were built from 1942 until 1946

when a few started coming off the production lines. The highway speed limit was cut to 35MPH more to save tire consumption than gasoline. Both tires and gas were rationed as well as batteries. Most over the counter food items were rationed. The public was asked to start “victory gardens”. In many ways life became a bit simpler as the entire nation united to create The Arsenal of Democracy. Yes we got the job done and in so many ways Mr. Brokaw got it right calling it The Greatest Generation.

Three years ago, Maxine and her daughter Susan were searching for a new Church home. One visit to St. Christopher’s was all it took and in their words, “it was love at first sight. This is what a Church should be like, this is our Church.” They were Confirmed as members by Rt. Rev. Dena Harrison, Bishop Suffragan, Diocese of Texas. We are fortunate to have these two ladies as members of our parish.

** In 1941, Navy officials asked the Brown brothers George R. and Herman to build ships for the US Navy. With \$9 million in Navy funding built the Green’s Bayou Fabrication Yard at the juncture of The Houston Ship Channel and Greens Bayou. By the end of the war they ha produced over 350 warships in contracts totaling over \$500 million*

JANUARY EVENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1ST
 NEW YEAR'S DAY
 FIRST FRUITS SUNDAY
 10 AM Rite II with Choir

MONDAY, JANUARY 2ND
 OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3RD
 9:30 AM Staff Meeting
 9:45AM Senior Exercise
 11 AM Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4TH
 10 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry
 12:05 PM Healing Service with Eucharist
 1-3 PM Recovery for Mission
 7 PM Choir

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5TH
 6:30 AA Beginner's Study Group

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6TH
 EPIPHANY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7TH
 9AM-Noon Safeguarding God's Children Training
 2 -5 PM Safeguarding God's People Training

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8TH
 RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY LOOSE CHANGE OFFERTARY
 8 AM Rite I
 9:15AM Sunday School
 10:15 AM Rite II with Choir
 11:30 AM Episcopal Youth
 11:30 AM Daughters of the King

MONDAY, JANUARY 9TH
 6:30 PM Day School Board

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10TH
 9:30 AM Staff Meeting
 9:45AM Senior Exercise

11 AM Bible Study
 1 PM Thrift Shop Board
 7 PM Labyrinth

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11TH
 10 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry
 10 AM Day School Chapel
 12:05 PM Healing Service with Eucharist
 1-3 PM Recovery for Mission
 6 PM Finance Committee
 7 PM Choir

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12TH
 6:30 AA Beginner's Study Group

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15TH
 LORD OF THE STREETS OUTREACH
 9:40 AM Snack Pack Assembly
 10 AM One Service
 11:30 AM Annual Parish Meeting & Potluck Lunch

MONDAY, JANUARY 16TH
 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY
 OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17TH
 9:30 AM Staff Meeting
 9:45AM Senior Exercise
 11 AM Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18TH
 10 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry
 10 AM Day School Chapel
 12:05 PM Healing Service with Eucharist
 1-3 PM Recovery for Mission
 7 PM Choir

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19TH
 6:30 AA Beginner's Study Group

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20TH
 VESTRY RETREAT @ CAMP ALLEN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21ST
 VESTRY RETREAT @ CAMP ALLEN

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22ND
 8 AM Rite I
 9:15AM Sunday School
 10:15 AM Rite II with Choir
 11:30 AM Episcopal Youth
 11:30 AM Episcopal Church Women

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24TH
 9:30 AM Staff Meeting
 9:45AM Senior Exercise
 11 AM Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25TH
 10 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry
 10 AM Day School Chapel
 12:05 PM Healing Service with Eucharist
 12:30 PM Clericus
 1-3 PM Recovery for Mission
 7 PM Choir

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26TH
 6:30 AA Beginner's Study Group

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28TH
 PRIVATE RENTAL-LATHAM HALL

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29TH
 8 AM Rite I
 9:15AM Sunday School
 10:15 AM Rite II with Choir
 11:30 AM Episcopal Youth

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31ST
 9:30 AM Staff Meeting
 9:45AM Senior Exercise
 11 AM Bible Study

DON'T FORGET TO TURN IN YOUR
FEASTING ON GRATITUDE
2012 STEWARDSHIP
 PLEDGE CARDS BY
SUNDAY, JANUARY 29TH.

Birthdays

Jan 3	Georges
Jan 12	Michael S.
Jan 18	Valente
Jan 25	Liam
Jan 27	Soren
Jan 28	McKayla
Jan 29	Kennadi
	S. Servat

Teacher Anniversaries
 Mary Roberts 11 years
Congratulations and Thank You, Ms. Mary!

Welcome to Our New Families
 Vijaya Alladi & Vijaya Dwibhashi and their son, Vivek to the Caterpillar room.
 Michael & Christine Mathers and their daughter, Jenna to the Little Lamb room.

A VISIT FROM SANTA CLAUS DECEMBER 6, 2011



Clockwise from top left: Pre-K, Butterflies, Little Lambs, and Bumblebees getting a special visit from Santa Claus.



EPISCOPAL YOUTH COMMUNITY

**Camp Allen
2012 Summer Camp**

Registration is Open

Ages 8-18
June—August.

Get you packet now!

Contact Jill Center :
713.465.6015 or
jill@stchrishouston.org



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

ANNIVERSARIES

Jim & Abbey Brewer 01/16
Matt & Gladys Pace 01/28

Portia Sweet 01/14
Evelyn White 01/14
R.T. Parramore 01/15
Ken Robinson 01/15

BIRTHDAYS

Sylvia Morgan 01/01
Victoria Albright 01/03
Bo Cipra 01/03
Larry Pless 01/03
Gloria Irle 01/07
Eleanor Sebring 01/09
Davina Hatfield 01/10
Weldon Slaughter 01/12

Dorothy Gleitz 01/16
Gwen Aldridge 01/18
Bob McKay 01/20
Lee Thackeray 01/22
Tim Alexander 01/25
Megan Alexander 01/30
Chloe Denson 01/31
Alice Ruppenthal 01/31

Dear Friends,

Your kind expressions of sympathy on the recent loss of my brother were much appreciated and provided strength and comfort during a difficult time. Thank you for your support. As always, I remain ever grateful for my St. Christopher's family.

Mary Frances Townsend

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

If you would like to receive pledge envelopes, and currently do not, please contact Gladys Pace, Parish Administrator, in the church office at 713-465-6015 or gladys@stchrishouston.org. Envelopes will not be assigned unless requested. If you have previously requested envelopes, there is no need to contact the office, unless you wish to stop receiving them.

If you would like to set up your pledge as a Direct Deposit, contact the church office for a form.
Thank you.





**FEASTING ON GRATITUDE
2012 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN ENDS
SUNDAY, JANUARY 29TH.**

**St. Christopher's
Episcopal Church**

1656 Blalock Road
Houston, TX 77080

Office: 713.465.6015

Fax: 713.465.2086

Day School: 713.465.6035

Thrift Shop: 713.467.7743

E-mail:

information@stchrishouston.org

Visit our website!

stchrishouston.org

*Our mission is to serve God through word and deed,
inviting all people to find renewal in Christ.*



**St. Christopher's Annual Parish Meeting
Sunday, January 15th**

One Worship Service
10:00 AM –Holy Eucharist, Rite II

No Christian Education Hour

Lunch will be served following the service

All Ministries will deliver their annual reports
beginning at Noon.

Entertainment will be provided for children ages 3 and up in the Guild Room during the meeting.

Babysitting for children ages 0-3 will be available in the Nursery until 1 pm.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATION ADDITION

Weldon Slaughter

In memory of my mother

