

August
2011



THE CHRONICLES

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Volume 10, Issue 6

RENEWING FOR

Mission

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

As I begin this letter, I note with great interest that today is the 42nd anniversary of the first manned landing on the moon by Astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin. What a marvelous and wondrous engineering and scientific achievement that was! Who could have imagined the actual accomplishment of the national goal of landing men on the moon and returning them safely to Earth? Well, certainly the Astronauts could imagine it (especially that “returning safely” part!), as could the thousands of supporting engineers and scientists whose spirits were with them as they traveled to the moon and returned home.

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church is preparing to embark on our own “Moon Mission”...and the countdown has begun on our project to renew and refresh the nave of our beloved church. Father Bob, Jill Center and members of the Capital Campaign Committee have been working extremely diligently in developing printed materials, schedules and plans, which you will see very soon.

It is very exciting for me to be able to share with you that the selected theme for our campaign is **“Renewing for Mission,”** which I find to be most appropriate and fitting.

We have secured the services of The Reverend Nicolas Dyke as our consultant for our capital campaign. Father Dyke is a retired priest of The Diocese of Texas and currently serves as Interim Rector at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church in Spring, Texas. He is a truly remarkable and gifted individual and you will have the opportunity to meet and visit with him during the campaign.

A complete schedule of events to be offered during the campaign will be published soon. This schedule will include the parish-wide “Town Hall” meetings on July 31, after the 8 AM and 10:15 AM services. These meetings will give all parishioners the opportunity to ask any remaining questions before the launch of the campaign.

I hope that you will prayerfully consider participating fully in this very worthy effort. I know that we will complete our journey successfully...and what a remarkable and exciting journey it will be as we undertake, with God's help, to renew and refresh our beloved St. Christopher's!

Sincerely,

Mike Leskin
Capital Campaign Chairman

July 31
Parish-Wide Gatherings
in Latham Hall

9:15 and 11:30

Please attend **one**
of the two meetings



Watch for more information in
next month's Chronicles . . .

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.

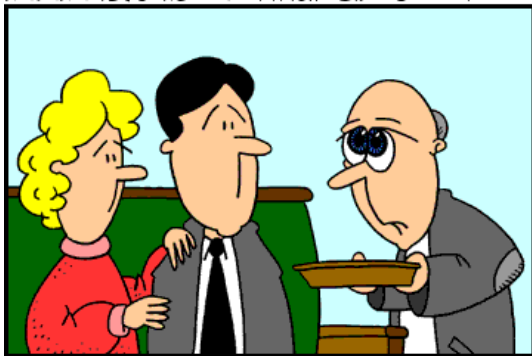
MAILING LIST

If you would like to be added/removed from the mailing list please contact the Parish Administrator at 713.465.6015.

READ THE CHRONICLES ONLINE

The Chronicles is available online in PDF form at www.stchrishouston.org or can be emailed directly to you. If you would like to receive an electronic version of this publication, please email your request to jill@stchrishouston.org.

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



IT WAS SAID THAT IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE OFFERING-TAKING ABILITIES OF GOOD OL' SAD FRED, THE CHURCH WOULD'VE HAD TO SHUT DOWN YEARS AGO

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. Fill out a card and place in the offering plate to be added to this prayer list. Once added, the prayer will remain on this list for one month unless noted.

If you wish to add a prayer to the Prayers of the People, please fill out the form provided in the church office at 713.465.6015 or jill@stchrishouston.org. This form can be picked up or emailed to you upon request. 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. Pastoral Care visit the ill and homebound. 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 (birthdays, anniversaries, in thanksgiving, in memory of, or for the glory of God). If you would like to order Altar Flowers, contact the church office at 713.465.6015 or email gladys@stchrishouston.org. Dedications are \$50.00.

BUILDING SPACE RESERVATION

If you wish 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. Contact the church office at 713.465.6015 or gladys@stchrishouston.org.

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. Requests can be emailed to gladys@stchrishouston.org.

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
9:00 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

Administrative Assistant: Jill Center
jill@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

For some time now, we as a parish have been discerning and sharing discussions about the physical needs of our church building. We have had a dedicated group of people on the Building Committee working with architects and contractors for about two years now. The people of St. Christopher's realize that any large project must be prayed about, thought over, and explored thoroughly. After two years of doing this wonderful, interesting, and quite educational work, we are ready to step into the next phase and begin the renovation project.

I have had many interesting conversations about this process of discernment with people from many churches. These congregations are trying to grow in number while their buildings are aging and in need of repair and refurbishment, and addressing these realities require decisions to be made. Some of the options that churches face in these situations include renovation, replacement of existing buildings, expanding existing buildings, or relocation. No matter what they decide, the outcome will be costly – manageable in most cases, but costly.

Of these options, there is only one that is viable for us. Renovate and restore. The other options are just not what God is calling us to do at this time. I firmly believe that God wants us to remain as a presence of his kingdom right here in Spring Branch and to live into our calling with vitality and purpose. We must continue to be a place where people will come to know the love of God in their lives and be transformed by his grace.

Our calling is high and awesome! Therefore we have officially begun our campaign, *Renewing for Mission*. The purpose behind this campaign is not to re-build, nor is it to forget our history and start from scratch. The purpose is to *Renew*, to continue on with the legacy that is richly present in this parish and live into the promises for and with the next generation. To *renew* means to do something again; to reaffirm a promise or commitment; to give something new energy, strength, and hope; to make something new again. There are strong biblical messages here for us, as Jesus is new life, new hope, new creation, the new covenant, and he continually

promises us new life as “all of us... seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image” (2 Corinthians 3:18).

Please make every effort to attend the parish meeting on Sunday, July 31 following the 8:00 and 10:15 services. This is the first meeting we are having together as a parish to begin this exciting and faith-filled campaign for our future. This will be a great opportunity to gather the information concerning the scope of the project and to ask some questions you may have been thinking about.

I hope to see as many people as possible in attendance on July 31. Please pray about this awesome call and endeavor we have begun, and I hope that you too are as excited as I am as we take this great next step in the history of St. Christopher's.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Mike Leskin | Chairperson | Mary Frances Townsend | |
| Joe Albright | | Van Valentine | |
| Jeannie Breidenthal | | The Rev. Bob Goolsby | Rector |
| Jill Center | | The Rev. Nick Dyke | Consultant |
| Becky Hubert | | | |
| Rebecca Knisel | | | |
| Chris Lolley | | | |
| Martha Salas | | | |

FROM THE PARISH

PIANO FOR SALE

Schumann Black Baby Grand \$265.00
Can be seen in Latham Hall
Contact office 713-465-6015

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

The next Fellowship Dinner will be Saturday, August 13 at 6 PM at the home of John and Madeline Greer in Katy. All are invited to attend. The St. Christopher's van will be available for those who wish to go but need assistance getting to and from the dinner.

If you would like to participate, please contact Dolores McLeod at 281-913-2136 or Vonnice Barth at 713-462-8189 to sign up for a side dish. If you would like to ride in the van or have any other questions, please contact Carmen Aikman at 713-465-2987.

EPISCOPAL YOUTH COMMUNITY

There will be no EYC meetings in August.

Events to watch for:

Citizens for Animal Protection
Volunteer Days

Summer Pool Party
August 6th
10 AM - 2PM
at the Greers!

EYC is open to all youth ages 11 and up. Visitors are always welcome. Contact Jill Center at 713-465-6015 or jill@stchrishouston.org for more information.

MEMORIAL ASSISTANCE MINISTRIES - BACK TO SCHOOL

Help send 4500 children back to school for 2011-2012 school year with new clothes and supplies.

Please contact MAM for more

information at 713-574-7539 or donate online at helpherehelpnow.org Please make all checks payable to MAM.

PRAY FOR OUR CAMPERS

Three members of the Youth will be attending Horsemanship camp and Camp Allen the week of August 7th. Please keep them and all their fellow campers in your prayers.

PUMPKIN PATCH

Fall is just around the corner and that means pumpkins at St. Christopher's! Please mark Saturday, October 8th as delivery day. All volunteers are welcome.

If you are interested in volunteering to work in the Pumpkin Patch, please let Jill Center know at 713-465-6015 or jill@stchrishouston.org.

DO YOU TAKE PHOTOS?

We all love participating in the different events and activities around our parish. If you like to take photos or have photos of past events you think might be fun to share, please contact Jill in the church office at 713.465.6015.

If you enjoy taking photographs, consider bringing your camera to the next activity or event you attend and taking pictures.

Photos can be emailed to jill@stchrishouston.org or we can make digital copies if the originals are brought by the office.

By sharing the photos, you are giving the church permission to use them in any printed materials or web designs.



August Anniversaries

George and Alice Ruppenthal 8/18
Pat and Leigh LaVergne 8/25

August Birthdays

Katherine Leskin 8/4
Beverly Jo Bulas 8/5
Veronica Hatfield 8/5
Ellen Valentine 8/6
Ryan Ruffing 8/8
James Wickman 8/8
Michael Alexander 8/10
Barbara Wickman 8/13
Abbey Brewer 8/14
Matthew Dagleish 8/14
Mandy Derryberry 8/14
Robert Hatfield II 8/16
Chad Devens 8/18
Ann Mayeux 8/21
Bonnie Ryan 8/22
Harriette Whiteside 8/22
Drew Breidenthal 8/23
Dorothy Johnson 8/23
John Horn 8/24
Jackson Buckley 8/25
Karyn Callaway 8/25
Marie Repp 8/25
Frances Runk 8/25

AUGUST EVENTS

MONDAY, AUGUST 1ST

7AM-6PM Day School in Latham Hall

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2ND

7AM-6PM Day School in Latham Hall
10:00 AM Senior Exercise

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3RD

7AM-6PM Day School in Latham Hall
10:00 AM Prayer Shawl
12:05 PM Healing Service

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4TH

7AM-6PM Day School in Latham Hall

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5TH

7AM-6PM Day School in Latham Hall

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6TH

10:00 AM EYC Pool Party
4:00 PM Soccer Shootout

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7TH

FIRST FRUITS SUNDAY

Guest Priest: The Rev. Patricia Vazquez

Donations of fresh fruits and vegetables and other food items are collected, blessed and delivered to Mission of Yahweh, a local ministry that assists mothers and children in need.

8 AM Rite I
9:00 AM Christian Education
For all ages
10:15 AM Rite II
10:15 AM Children's Chapel
12:00 PM Daughters of the King

MONDAY, AUGUST 8TH

7AM-6PM Day School in Latham Hall
6:00 PM Day School Board

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9TH

7AM-6PM Day School in Latham Hall
10:00 AM Senior Exercise
7:00 PM Labyrinth

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10TH

7AM-6PM Day School in Latham Hall
10:00 AM Prayer Shawl
12:05 PM Healing Service

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11TH

7AM-6PM Day School in Latham Hall

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12TH

7AM-6PM Day School in Latham Hall

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13TH

6:00 PM Fellowship Dinner

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14TH

SECOND SUNDAY OFFERING RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Guest Priest: The Rev. Sam Todd

8 AM Rite I
9:00 AM Christian Education
10:15 AM Rite II
10:15 AM Children's Chapel
11:30 AM Episcopal Church
Women

MONDAY, AUGUST 15TH

7AM-6PM Day School in Latham Hall

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16TH

7AM-6PM Day School in Latham Hall
10:00 AM Senior Exercise
6:30 PM Finance

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17TH

7AM-6PM Day School in Latham Hall
10:00 AM Prayer Shawl
12:05 PM Healing Service

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18TH

7AM-6PM Day School in Latham Hall

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19TH

7AM-6PM Day School in Latham Hall

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20TH

6:00 PM Family Movie Night
"Rio"

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21ST

THIRD SUNDAY- LORD OF THE STREETS OUTREACH

Guest Priest: The Rev. Patricia Vazquez

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 22ND

SBISD Begins 2011-2012 School Year
7:00 PM Vestry Meeting

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23RD

10:00 AM Senior Exercise

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24TH

10:00 AM Prayer Shawl
12:05 PM Healing Service
12:30 PM Clericus

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25TH

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26TH

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27TH

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28TH

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 29TH

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30TH

10:00 AM Senior Exercise

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31ST

10:00 AM Prayer Shawl
12:05 PM Healing Service

Upcoming Events. . .

September 14 and 15
Capital Campaign
Foundational Meetings

September 24
Capital Campaign Celebration with
David Stevens in Concert

September 25
Fall Family Celebration Sunday
with
Lunch and Magic Show

Labor Day Family Camp

Camp Allen Conference & Retreat Center
September 2-4, 2011

Got a hankering for a back to school break?
Saddle up and head to the piney woods of
Camp Allen for a fun family weekend!



Activities

- Fishing Lessons
- Canoeing
- Western Dinner with Ropers
- Swimming
- Moonjump & Slip-n-Slide
- Arts & Crafts
- Horseback Riding
- Outdoor Exploration Classes
- Rock Climbing
- Virtual Theatre
- Guided Nature walks
- Skeet Shooting
- Moonwalk
- Evening Entertainment
- Giant Swing

Weekend Packages

Family (2 Adults & 2 Kids)	\$465
Couple	\$335
Single	\$200
Additional Children	\$65

Rates include 2 nights hotel lodging, meals, and most activities. Massages, horseback riding, pony rides, and skeet shooting are available for a nominal fee. Children 2 & under are free, and participants over 14 will be charged as adults. The retreat begins Friday at 5:00pm and concludes Sunday at 1:00pm.

Rates

Register online to reserve your space today! For more information, contact Dawn at dawnh@campallen.org or by calling 866.334.CAMP.



campallen.org

In the days of the Apartheid Government, the churches, and in particular the Anglican Church, focused their “social justice” efforts on speaking against and working against unjust laws and unfair treatment of people of colour.

When the changes came, and laws were repealed, in the early nineties, this task was over but it took a while for the church to find a “new enemy” to tackle.

The AIDS pandemic (South Africa has one of the highest HIV positive rates in the world) and corrupt officials in the new government have vied for this position but it has finally been agreed that poverty and unemployment are the most serious threats facing South Africa.

Official statistics place unemployment at 25% but experts judge it to be nearer 40%. Many families survive on old age pensions, disability grants and child grants.

The problem is compounded by the huge influx of previously rural, tribal people into the towns with the repealing of the Group Areas Act, the Influx Control Act and the Homelands Policy – this last being something like the Reservation System for American Indians.

The relaxing of immigration restrictions has also led to a large number of immigrants – both legal and illegal – coming in from other African countries.

As a result, informal settlements or “shanty towns” have sprung up in and around most South African towns.

The Anglican Church’s decision to tackle poverty and unemployment has led to the formation, in 1999, of a non-profit organization called Hope Africa whose task is “to promote and implement a social development programme for the Anglican Church of Southern Africa and to build the capacity of the

Anglican Church to be a strategic and credible partner in social development”.

Their major tasks are to help dioceses to develop their own Social Development Departments, to help them develop agricultural programmes, to identify suitable projects and find donors to support them, and to work with suitable partners in developing training programmes to equip people to run projects more effectively.

Information on the work they do is to be found on their website, www.hopeafrica.org.za. They welcome donors and partners, whether churches, individuals or organizations.

**St. Christopher's
Soccer Shootout**



SATURDAY ,AUGUST 6TH

4 - 7 PM



SPONSORED BY

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

SOCCER FIELDS WITH REFEREES

FREE ADMISSION

ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

FREE HOT DOGS

FREE CHIPS

FREE BOTTLED WATER

CAMP ALLEN REVIEW

AWAKEN YOUR SPIRIT
IN THE PINEY WOODS

Summer 2011

www.campallen.org

Camp Allen Swings into 90th Summer with Record-Breaking Attendance

On May 7th we celebrated 90 years of camping at Camp Allen. We have come a long way since those early days when Rosa Lum Allen let the Episcopal Diocese of Texas use her summer home for the first camp. This summer we have over 1,700 campers celebrating our history and enjoying a memorable week in their young lives.

Having a record number of campers at a time when many camps are experiencing a decline is no small accomplishment. There are a number of significant factors contributing to this success:

- * A reputation as a summer camp with a reasonable tuition
- * Additional activities and programs
- * Faith based leaders who are fully committed to the camp experience
- * Building on a long history of safety and positive camper experiences

The campers arrive on Sunday afternoons with all of the anticipation of meeting new friends and trying new activities. They are greeted



Soaring to new heights on the Blob!



The Giant Swing is a new addition to our challenge course that was funded through Starry Nights Donors.

by our senior staff and counselors with their bright orange shirts and smiling faces. These staffers have arrived at camp weeks before the campers do in order to fine-tune their safety training, prepare the activity areas, create props, and build relationships with students from a variety of college campuses.

Senior Staff member, Erin El-Tawil, commented "Summer Camp at Camp Allen has been home for me the last 11 years of my life. Just as Camp Allen is a home for me in the summer the people who surround me here are more than friends, they are my family. It's a place where as a camper I came to be myself, to be loved, to experience Christ, and have fun. As a member of Sr. Staff not only do I still get to experience all of those things, but I also get to give that as a gift to the kids who come along every week".

After a week of faith and fun, the campers depart on Saturday morning from their campsites. The parents line up before the designated time to get ready for camper pickup and hear about their camper's week. It is hot outside, but there are a lot of activities that make this memory a cool one. Many of these campers will become the counselors and leadership of the future as Camp Allen builds on its deep history. This is a great time to donate to the Scholarship fund at www.campallen.org.



**FIELD TRIP FUN
SUMMER 2011**

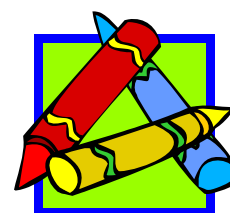
Birthdays

- August 4 Ms. Tina
- August 7 Ms. Maria S.
- August 11 Madison C.
- August 17 Lily
- August 18 Yin
- August 23 Ms. Mary L.
- August 25 Liam
- August 26 Mr. Kyle
- August 29 Ms. Shelly



Teacher Anniversaries

**Congratulations and thank you
for your hard work and dedication!**



Marchelle Cipra
17 years
Director



Maria Chavez
7 years
Butterflies



Emily Cox
1 year
Pre-K Asst. Teacher

We would like to welcome our newest families to the...

Robert & Natalie Blasingame & their daughter, Madeleine to the afterschool program

Casey & Rebecca Clemmer & their son, Luke to the Little Lambs classroom.

Lucas & Anne Anderson & their son, Ronan to the Little Lambs classroom.

Steve & Marina Rosales & their son, Dean to the Doodlebugs classroom.

We are so glad that you are a part of our family here at St. Christopher's.



St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

1656 Blalock Road
Houston, TX 77080

Office: 713.465.6015

Fax: 713.465.2086

Day School: 713.465.6015

Thrift Shop: 713.467.7743

E-mail:

information@stchrishouston.org

Visit our website!

stchrishouston.org

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Christopher's will joyfully share the Word of Jesus Christ with all people, reaching out in faith, love, and fellowship.

THE SHOP

MAXINE ASKEW

St. Christopher's Gift Shop is now up and running. This lovely nook contains many handmade items, in addition to gifts and worship materials. We have a variety of crosses, angels and other items appropriate for birth and confirmation gifts.

If any member of friend of the church are into crafting, please consider donating one or two of your artful projects for sale in The Shop. I am always amazed at the range of talent in this congregation.

The Shop is open on Sundays from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM and Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Stop by and be amazed at all we have to offer. Check out the book section. Many different Bibles

and prayer books are on our shelves. If we are out of what you need, we will try to find it for you. The Shop is here to serve you.

The Shop is currently working on setting up a "Youth Corner." If there is something you would like to have, please let the manager know.

Don't forget to check out our newest additions - Comfort Crosses, both full-size and key chains.

As a special treat The Shop has acquired a limited number of copies of the "St. Christopher's Golden Anniversary Cookbook." The dividers in the cookbook provide a fascinating look at the history of St. Christopher's. This fabulous collection of recipies from our own

great cooks here at St. Christopher's will be priced at \$20.00. Pick up a copy for yourself or as a gift.

The Shop is located in the Christian Education Hall next to the Choir Room.

Maxine Askew is the current shop manager.

The shop is a ministry supported by the Episcopal Church Women of St. Christopher's.